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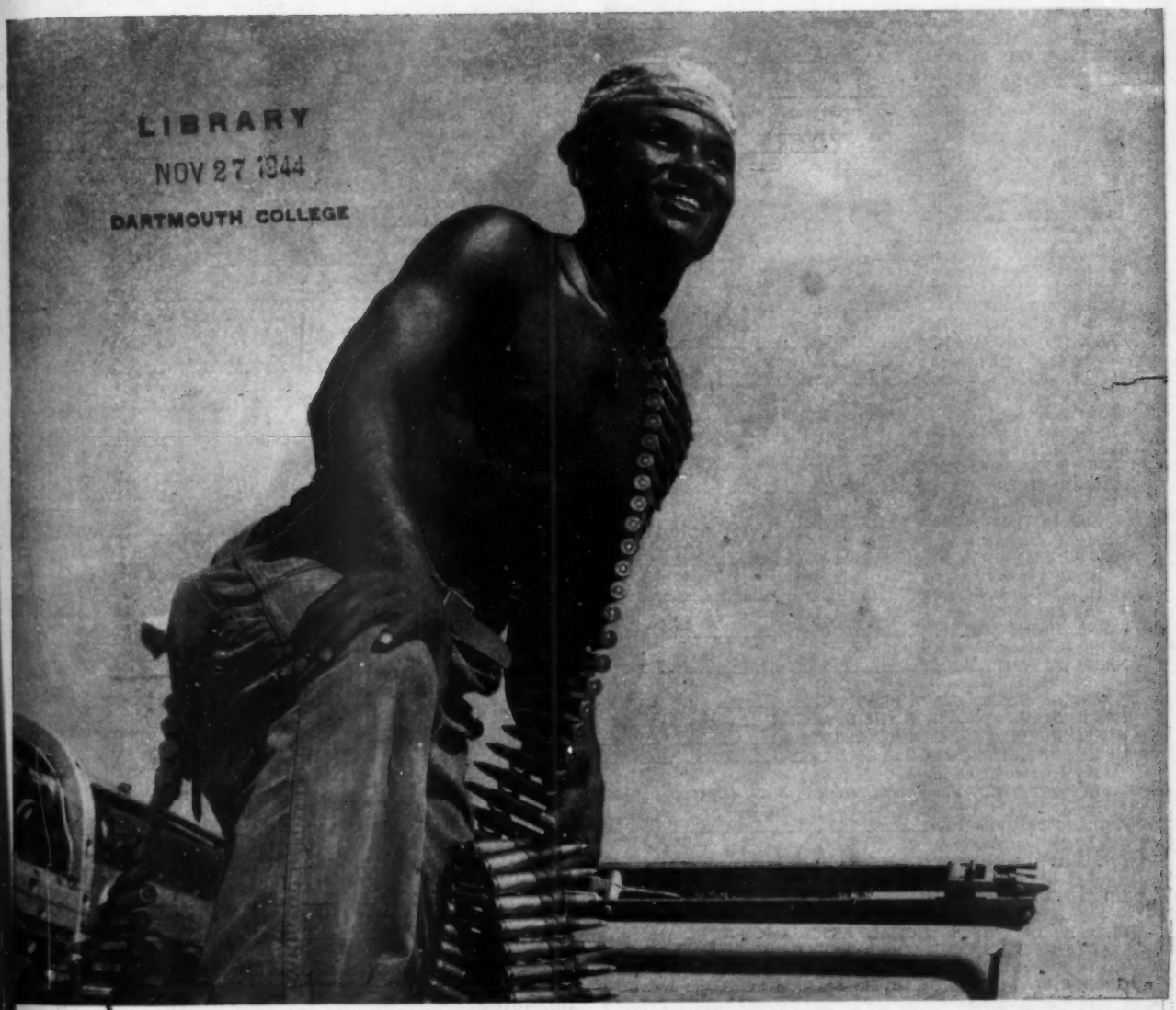

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College and School News

Clarence E. Cooper, president of the Student Council, and Warren Gardner, editor of Script, undergraduate newspaper, represented HAMPTON INSTITUTE at the annual forum on current problems sponsored by the *New York Herald Tribune* at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City, October 16 and 17. Both young men are majoring in social studies at Hampton.

Dorothy Maynor opened the 1944-45 concert series of Hampton Institute's Music Art Society Friday evening, October 20 in Ogden Hall.

J. Saunders Redding, associate professor of English at Hampton Institute, opened the annual lecture series at Brown university October 16 with an address in Alumni hall at the university on "Some Problems Peculiar to the Negro Author." Redding, who was awarded a Guggenheim fellowship last spring, has been granted a leave from his duties at Hampton and is working on a novel dealing with the relationship of the middle class Negro to his complex environment. A graduate of Brown, where he received both the bachelor of philosophy degree and the master's degree, and where he also pursued special graduate studies, Redding is the author of "No Day of Triumph," which won the North Carolina Mayflower award last year.

The freshmen, sophomores and juniors of the HOWARD UNIVERSITY College of Dentistry —ninety-six in number—were discharged from the army on September 9, 1944, and permitted to continue their studies in dentistry as civilians. The seniors were permitted to continue in the program until graduation on December 22, 1944. This will mark the closing of the A.S.T.P. in the College of Dentistry of Howard university.

The A.S.T.P. program was inaugurated at the College June 12, 1943. One hundred of the 121 enrolled dental students were inducted into the program during the school year. At the close of the year, March 17, 1944 the eighteen graduating seniors who were members of the A.S.T.P., received commissions as first lieutenants in the Dental Corps of the United States Army and were ordered to active duty.

M. J. Abelard Desenclos of Haiti, an exchange fellow under the provisions of the Buenos Aires Convention for the Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations, visited WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE October 9 to 16 to observe methods on teacher training.

M. Desenolos is a graduate student in rural education in the School of Education at Cornell university. He was awarded a tra-

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vel grant by the Department of State to visit education institutions.

Second Lieutenant John L. Whitehead, Jr., former West Virginia State College student, was recently awarded his wings and commission from the aviation cadet corps at the Tuskegee army air field. He is now undergoing transition training at this station. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Whitehead of Lawrenceville, Va.

With sixteen states, the British West Indies and the republic of Haiti represented, SHAW UNIVERSITY has an enrollment of 520 full-time students for the first session of the 79th school year. The enrollment is the largest in the history of the institution.

Led by North Carolina with 440 students, other states as they rank in number are Virginia 21; New York 13; New Jersey 8; Pennsylvania 7; Alabama, Florida, South Carolina and Maryland 3; West Virginia, Michigan and Connecticut 2; California, Ohio and Georgia 1. There are 3 students from the republic of Haiti and 1 from the British West Indies.

At the spring meeting of the Board of Trustees of JOHNSON C. SMITH university, Dr. C. E. Bomar, a successful dentist of Orange, N. J., and an alumnus of the university, class of 1916, was elected a member of the board of trustees. Dr. Bomar has had an active interest in the welfare and progress of the university and, as president of the General Alumni Association, has launched a new and working organization which promises to be most effective.

The first Student Council at the university was installed September 28 when the following took the oath of office: William S. Davis, Yonkers, N. Y., president; Henry H. Holder, Newark, N. J., vice-president; Mrs. Gladyce Robinson Cole, Cheraw, S. C., senior class; James W. Smith, Jr., Charlotte, N. C., assistant secretary, senior class; Darius Leander Swan, Amelia, Va., chaplain, senior class; John Ansil McHugh, Brooklyn, N. Y., junior class; Allenstine O. Sparks, Hartford, Conn., junior class; Winona Evelyn Lee, Greensboro, N. C., secretary, sophomore class; Raymond N. Mitchell, Charlotte, N. C., sophomore class.

November 4, which has been on the official school calendar as the tentative date for Homecoming at LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (Mo.), has been officially designated as the date for this annual event. Last year for the first

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time, the activity was not celebrated due, primarily, to the lack of "material" from which Coach Ray Kemp could muster a football squad.

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The registrants are: Bernard Bates, Caruthersville, Mo.; Gerald Brooks, St. Louis, Mo.; George Brooks, Columbia, Mo.; William Griffin, St. Louis, Mo.; Horatius Johnson, Kansas City, Mo.; Wilber Kennedy, California, Co.; Sylvester Smith, St. Louis, Mo.; Edward Walker, Vandalia, Mo.; Maurice Washington, Kansas City, Mo.; and Clifton Wortham, Oxford, Mississippi.

At the close of registration for the first semester of the 1944-45 school year the ATLANTA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK reports 104 full time students enrolled—a twenty-five per cent increase over last year for this, its twenty-fourth year of training young men and women for the profession of social work, probably making it the sixth largest school of social work in the country irrespective of race.

The enrollment is made up of students from widely scattered areas of the country including 22 states and the District of Columbia. Thirty per cent of the student body came from northern states including Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska and Ohio.

Sigma Gamma Rho sorority has contributed $500 to the United Negro College Fund through Dr. Howard Long of Washington, D. C.

The first college assembly of the 1944-45 college year at KNOXVILLE COLLEGE, "high in the foothills of the Smokies," showed decided gains over the previous college year. The over-all enrollment may reach the 250 mark after all departments are reported. Nearly 100 are Freshmen and new upper class students.

October 28 was Homecoming day, an event of great significance to all Knoxville alumni, many of whom converged upon the city of Knoxville that week end for the East Tennessee Teachers' Ass'n. meeting. October 31 and November 1 the annual fall meeting of the trustees of the college was held on the campus. November 7 marks the first in the artist series of recitals for the college year. James Miller, pianist, of Pittsburgh, is the recitalist.

November 21-24 will bring other guests to the campus, the Fellowship of Southern Churchmen, composed of forward-looking church leaders of both races. Vice-president Henry A. Wallace has been invited to address this meeting.

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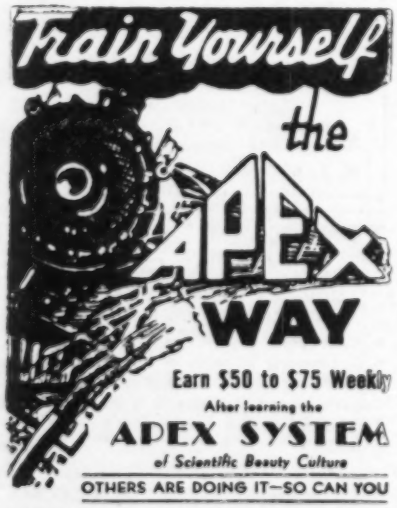

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New students arrived on the campus, Thursday, September 14, and launched into an extensive program which helped to orientate them to the customs, traditions, and objectives of the college and its curriculum.

Sunday, October 1, Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard university, was guest speaker.

"Louisiana Education in Wartime," official bulletin of the Louisiana State Department of Education, in the current September issue, gives space to the activi ies of SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, in four separate articles.

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THE CRISIS

Founded 1910
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

A Record of the Darker Races

Editor: ROY WILKINS

Editorial Advisory Board: Lewis S. Gannett, Arthur B. Spingarn, Sterling A. Brown, William Allen Neilson, Walter White, Carl Murphy, John Hammond.

Vol. 51, No. 11 **Whole Number 407**

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WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED WITH THIS COPY SEND IT TO A BOY IN CAMP

NEXT MONTH

The Crisis for December will be devoted primarily to a picture story of what Negro fighting men and women have done on the various battlefronts during the invasion year of 1944. There will be photographs of our boys in England, Normandy, Italy, and the South Pacific. Practically every branch of the service will be represented, including port battalions, truck companies, barrage balloon units, armored groups, infantry, artillery, aviation, signal corps, engineers, and medical detachments.

Because the number of photographs covering activity on all fronts is too large for one issue, we are carrying the 332nd Fighter Group—pride of Negro America—in this issue.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Ernest E. Johnson is chief of the Washington Bureau of the Associated Negro Press. Alfred Baker Lewis is the well-known New England Socialist, active in labor groups, and a member of the national board of directors of the NAACP.

Grant Reynolds was discharged from the army as a chaplain early this year after a service of more than two years. His final article of the series will deal with what the Negro soldier thinks about the postwar world and will appear in an early issue. Max L. Hudicourt is active in liberal circles in Haiti. George Padmore is well-known to readers of The Crisis for his articles on the British West Indies and Africa and the British colonial policy. He lives in London. Miss Pauli Murray, an honor graduate of Howard university, was refused admittance to Harvard university law school because of her sex.

Editorials

Dirty Campaign

AMERICAN political campaigns being what they are, the public has come to expect a certain amount of "dirt" to be tossed in them, but it is to be doubted if anyone expected the type of campaign which has been waged in the name of the Republicans and often aided and abetted by some of their leading candidates, including the GOP nominee for the Presidency.

At the outset, the National Conference of Christians and Jews secured a joint statement from both national chairmen that racial and religious prejudices would be kept out of the campaign and disavowed and condemned if they should creep in. This, it turned out, meant exactly nothing.

The Republicans went after Sidney Hillman because Hillman is Jewish, because he came to this country from Russia in 1908, because he is the head of a clothing workers union, and because, as a figure in organized labor, he created the Political Action Committee of the CIO for the avowed purpose of re-electing Mr. Roosevelt.

The lies which have been told about Hillman are legion. The average American voter has been told that "Sidney" is dictating how he should vote; that everything will have to be "cleared with Sidney" if Roosevelt is re-elected; that it is un-American and somehow obscene for labor to have a political objective. The old Communism red herring has been brought out and worked to death.

We are not told of the millions upon millions of dollars subscribed by big business to the campaign expenses of the GOP. It is not un-American and obscene for a man who came here from Europe 35 or 40, or even ten years ago, to stump for Dewey and give his money for Dewey. Clare Boothe Luce can sneer in her best sneering manner at Americans who did not land on Plymouth Rock, but never does she—or the GOP—seem to realize that they are sneering at the American creed, that they are disavowing it. Mrs. Luce has had the colossal arrogance to assert that if her head rolls in the basket on election day, we can be sure it will be an "American" head. Are all those opposed to Mrs. Luce not Americans?

This campaign has alarmed Negro citizens. This slinging of hatred, this division of our population on the basis of race, color, class, and religion bodes ill for all minority groups and for the democratic idea itself.

By the time this is in print the election will be over. No matter which party wins, our population will be scarred and suspicious and divided at a time when such division can mean death to the freedoms for which we fight. The candidates who used or condoned this vile weapon have struck at America itself.

Wendell L. Willkie

THE common people of the world, regardless of nationality, race, color, or religion, lost a friend and champion when Wendell Willkie died October 8. Here was a man who started late as a public leader. It was not until 1940 when he was 48 that the people in the Republican party chose him as their candidate for the Presidency. The party bosses did not choose him. Even with their lukewarm support he polled more votes than any Republican candidate for that high office. For Wendell Willkie was a man of the people with a warm-hearted insight into their hopes, aspirations, heartaches and dreams.

He did not fear the minorities question. He did not shrink from anti-Semitism. He did not dodge the Negro problem. His conception of the American ideal, of American democracy, did not admit of prejudice, inequality, injustice. He spoke out. He denounced. He condemned. He pointed the way, fearlessly, and in no compromising double-talk. He gauged correctly the times in which he lived. He saw clearly the issues confronting mankind everywhere. He saw that America could not live alone in a world which he could circle in a week in a plane. He saw that we could not ignore the Chinese, the Indians, and the Soviet Union. He saw that we could do nothing with these nations in a fundamental way if we at home denied opportunity to our Negro minority.

In a world of weasel words, double-dealing, hypocrisy, greed, selfishness, bigotry, and racial jealousy and hatred, Wendell L. Willkie was a beacon of that old-fashioned American honesty, fearlessness and fair play that has made this nation the hope of all mankind.

Soldiers Cheated of Credit

FOR many months *The Crisis* has been contending that our fighting men are not being given proper credit for their exploits in combat—in the newspapers, magazines and films reaching the vast white American population.

Recently the Richmond, Va., *Times Dispatch* printed a letter from a white attorney in Newport News asking: "What has become of our Negro troops? . . . (They) have either not been engaged (in combat) or a great injustice has been done them by failing to give them credit for their fighting."

The Newport News man has hit the nail on the head. The majority of the white population knows nothing about the deeds of Negroes in uniform. *Collier's* started a series of covers, paintings of men who had won medals for heroism. It never used Dorie Miller or Charles Jackson French, early Negro naval heroes in the war. *The Saturday Evening Post* never goes to press without at least two articles on fighting men, but never has it mentioned Negroes. *Life* carries pictures 52 weeks each year, and while it has had some photos of Negroes in training, it has not shown anything of them in combat. *Look* is friendly and fair to Negroes, but it has slipped up on this feature. As for the dailies, here and there they carry an item or a picture, but rarely. The newsreels have been notorious for omitting our men, a fact only accentuated by the splendid release in October showing the 92nd division in Italy.

All this adds up to the fact that the Newport News attorney and millions like him wonder whether Negroes are actually fighting in this war. Meanwhile there are hundreds of pictures in the files of the War department bureau of public relations in Washington, and much news matter about Negro soldiers. For some strange reasons, someone in the bureau thinks daily papers and magazines are not interested in Negro pictures, so they are never offered to big white publications. The War department has done a fine job in accrediting Negro war correspondents and in offering every cooperation to the Negro press. It needs to make available to all other media, however, material on Negroes, not only to give the Negro American citizens proper credit for their part in the war, but to ease and prevent the tensions bound to arise when nine-tenths of the population thinks the one-tenth did little if anything to bring victory.

The "Mutiny" Trial

SOMETHING smells about the trial of fifty Negro sailors on a charge of mutiny. They were all convicted after a deliberation of 45 minutes by the trial board, but at this writing it is not known on what charge. All competent observers seem convinced that the men cannot be guilty of mutiny. Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel, who spent twelve days in California as an observer at the trial, says flatly that the men were tried for mutiny solely because of their race and color.

It seems that the Navy has a policy of using Negroes exclusively at a West Coast point to load ammunition. Last August more than 250 Negro sailors were blown to bits when an explosion occurred at Port Chicago in California. The men tried for mutiny, with the Port Chicago experience before them, did not choose to be assigned, exclusively, to this dangerous work.

Negro Americans await with interest the final determination of the admiral in charge and the Navy Board of Review.

A Voice at the Peace Table?

By Ernest E. Johnson

UNLESS the current and abiding state of lethargy among American Negroes —and in great measure, our press— is quickly shaken, what passes for a clamor for a "voice at the peace table" will go unrecognized, not to mention unhonored.

Delegations representing the four major Powers sat down in August at Dumbarton Oaks, a fanciful estate on the Washington perimeter, and toiled for weeks to the end that all possible areas of agreement among them on the matter of peace and its maintenance might be reduced to paper. They planned to submit this draft to member governments of the United Nations, and later this fall hold a full dress conference for the purpose of working out a final document with the widest possible acceptance.

The task which the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and China set for themselves was by no means easily surmountable. Our own Mr. Hull and Britain's Sir Alexander Cadogan were careful to point out that the talks were purely 'exploratory." Each recognized that small nations too have a role to play, a fact to which they gave full endorsement when they signed the Joint Four-Nation Declaration at Moscow on October 31, 1943. This same document, carrying in it the principle of non-aggression, also obligated its signatories to undertake a conference "at the earliest practicable date" with the objective of "ensuring a rapid and orderly transition from war to peace and of establishing and maintaining international peace and security." August 21, then, became that practicable date."

Insofar as Negro people are concerned about the peace to follow World War II, the earliest voice in the wilderness was that of A. Philip Randolph, the indefatigable president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. At Toronto, Canada, on October 6, 1942, he proposed the organization of a Free Negro movement. His idea was patterned after the Free French as the French Committee of National Liberation was then known. Mr. Randolph envisioned the sending of a "strong delegation of Negroes and their true friends to the Peace Conference to present the claims of the Negro people of America, the West Indies and Africa for freedom, justice and equality." The March on Washington Movement, he planned, would sponsor a conference of "Negro leaders of the Western Hemisphere" to establish procedures. The plan remains on paper.

In the preliminary peace talks at Dumbarton Oaks only one colored group participated, the Chinese, and the equality and basic problems of Negroes and colonial colored people were not on the agenda. Will this policy be followed in the coming peace conference? This article tells why the various colored peoples must have a voice in the peace

Negroes at Peace Table?

A year ago *The Chicago Defender*, a journal of consequence, conducted a symposium in which a coterie of distinguished persons, Negro and white, expressed themselves on the question: "Should Negroes Sit at the Peace Table?" The series was provocative and informative. Undoubtedly, that was the intent. Regrettably, there has been no evidence since that anything more than being informative has been achieved. The provocation was short-lived. *The Defender* had performed its function of disclosing public sentiment. Of course, more concern on the part of the newspaper in its columns for the subsequent presentation of questions which have since arisen and which have had and are having effect upon the outcome, might easily have projected the publication to the fore as the singularly outstanding beacon in this area of darkness to most Negroes. Nevertheless, *The Defender*, and more particularly *The Black Dispatch* (Oklahoma City) are much ahead of the majority of Negro newspapers in the matter of foreign affairs.

This past summer the League of Colored Peoples met in London, with the inspiration of Walter White fresh with them, and laid plans for convening a Pan-African conference to present united demands at the peace conference in behalf of themselves and "peoples of African descent the world over." This step seemingly has been the only genuine thing done to get certain views presented at the "peace conference."

Unquestionably the moment is propitious for acting. The week before the Dumbarton Oaks parley, spokesmen for the American Jewish Conference handed our Undersecretary of State, Edward R. Stettinius, a memorandum containing four items which they believed ought be the basis for an International Bill of Rights. Jewish people in many parts of the world are regarded as a minority group, and treated in a manner familiar to most Negroes. They could now feel sure that at least one section of Jewish opinion had spoke against oppression.

What are the views which Negro people— in fact, colored peoples of the world—seek to place before this world forum that is planning for the peace via world organization? Indeed, those which are about to be given may not be all; they are a sampling.

At various times we have made much of the plight of the peoples comprising the colonies of Africa. We have abhorred British exploitation and its adulterated regard for the well-being of the backward peoples. While less mindful that the French—and the Belgians—have been relatively as unscrupulous, we have marveled at the splendid attempts of the late Felix Eboué to persuade the provisional government of General Charles De Gaulle to adjust its thinking with regard to colonial peoples. This concern stems in most instances from our kinship with Africa. True, there is some alarm among us for the plight of other peoples but not too much, unfortunately. Who is there to say that the Jews in Poland did not have a difficult time even in pre-war days?

Self-Government for Africa

It would seem then that the natural proposal to cover this complaint would be, in the popular sense, self-government for the peoples of Africa. We should not find it too trying to extend this sympathy to include the woes of India in a similar manner. Furthermore, there has been no dearth among our leaders to plead the case of India. Walter White again, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, and the Rev. Dr. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., have all been outspoken in this respect.

Having pillaged Africa of its riches, as the more rabid indignants would put it, Britain and similarly situated countries with dependent territories, should be called upon to undertake a humane development of these various colonies and mandated areas. They might well exert themselves in such matters as health, education, politics, and industry. Ancient approaches to good health are usually employed by the natives; education is sadly neglected, a serious drawback to self-determination; a voice in government has been either denied completely or effectively cir-

cumscribed; and industry has never been sincerely promoted beyond the point of common labor.

A third objective should be the one which caused frustration in the Japanese delegation to the 1919 Paris Peace Conference, that of equailty. Baron Makino, a former minister of Foreign Affairs and member of the Diplomatic Council, proposed in his amendment to the League of Nations Covenant:

> "The equality of nations being a basic principle of the League of Nations, the High Contracting Parties agree to accord, as soon as possible, to all aliens nationals of States Members of the League equal and just treatment in every respect, making no distinction either in law or in fact, on account of their race or nationality."

Woodrow Wilson was espousing a freedom of religion amendment which the Japanese said would be acceptable to them providing their own proposal was accepted. They were even amenable to change in the language so long as the view was retained. The entire effort failed. The British particularly objected, and the Americans gave tacit approval to the British position.

There is some hope of realization for at least a part of these ambitions if the words of statesmen of rank have any meaning. Signatories to the Atlantic Charter, now a part of the United Nations Declaration, are each of the four major Powers and some 32 other countries. In the words of Mr. Hull:

> "The pledge of the Atlantic Charter is of a system which will give every nation, large or small, a greater assurance of stable peace, greater opportunity for the realization of its aspirations to freedom, and greater facilities for material advancement."

The Moscow Declaration, the raison d'être of the Dumbarton Oaks conversations, took cognizance of the equality phase when the Powers agreed, among other things:

> "That they recognize the necessity of establishing . . . a general international organization, based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all peace-loving states . . ."

Mr. Hull perhaps more than any of the other statesmen has been especially forthright in his views upon the treatment of states and peoples. Two years ago he declared that Americans "have always believed . . . that all peoples, without distinction of race, color, or religion, who are prepared and willing to accept the responsibilities of liberty, are entitled to its enjoyment." Every colony in Africa and elsewhere has demonstrated during this war that it meets this qualification for liberty.

Mr. Hull went further in this same speech when philosophically he added:

> "Within each nation liberty under law is an essential requirement of progress. The spirit of liberty, when deeply imbedded in the minds and hearts of the people, is the most powerful remedy for racial animosities, religious intolerance, ignorance, and all the other evils which prevent men from uniting in a brotherhood of truly civilized existence. * * * It is the only real foundation of political and social stability."

Negroes in Peace Delegation

The problem now is how best to convey these ideas to those who will sit in determination. The method which most quickly comes to the average mind is in the vein of *The Defender* symposium, namely, the selection of a Negro for membership on the American delegation. This procedure is highly improbable since selection would hardly be made along ethnic lines. The nearest approach to this method would be in securing one or two Negroes as technicians who would work up material for the delegation. On the other hand, even though it were an attainable objective, unless there was agreement among the delegates themselves to press for acceptance of these views of colored peoples, they would fail of headway. The general public is little aware of the preparations which are made for an international conference. Actually, policy is determined early, and members of the delegation are briefed in the positions they are to take on various questions. They are not "free agents."

Boiled down, there are really but two alternatives: The views of colored peoples may be laid before policy forming officials for their consideration; or, assuming a parallel interest, the governments of those nations with a strong colored influence could be apprised of the interest and position of American Negroes, and others for whom they might speak. Notable among these governments are the Republic of Haiti, Ethiopia, and the Republic of Liberia. A word about each of these is in order. How far the views may be progressed with these governments depends upon the type and quality of the relationship existing between their representatives in this country and Negroes. The picture is not a good one.

Haiti enjoyed the warm regard of Negroes in the period that President Elie Lescot was her chief of mission here. As minister he formed friendships among the Negro people of Washington and elsewhere. His children attended Howard University, his family worshipped in Negro churches, and were received in the homes of many. The almost exclusive concern of Haiti's Ambassador, Andre Liautaud, for business rather than the cultural relationships has caused this friendship to wane. In addition, certain bad publicity which the Haitian government has made no attempt to offset has not helped.

Ethiopian Minister Ignores Negroes

Ethiopia opened a legation in Washington last November and sent Blotta Ephrem T. Medhen to represent the Emperor. Prior to that Abyssinia stood high in the hearts of American Negroes, a situation no doubt accentuated by the so-called "Rape of Ethiopia" by Italy. Negroes raised thousands of dollars to relieve suffering there and even championed the cause of that little country among our own statesmen. America's refusal to recognize the Italian conquest is due in part to the opposition of Negroes. Since coming to Washington the Ethiopians—minister and secretary—have lived in splendid isolation. They have taken no initiative to cultivate wholesome relations; Blotta Ephrem has invariably been unavailable to Negro reporters; and on many occasions he has sent a lone American Negro to substitute for him before American groups which have invited him to appear before them.

The Republic of Liberia is in a totally different position. That government is represented here by a Consul General, Walter F. Walker of New York. Most of Mr. Walker's friends are among Negroes, as are his social activities. He has rarely been unapproachable. But beyond the fact that Mr. Walker believes his country can best "speak" for Negro people through demonstration of ability to govern itself, he does not think it can or should go further. When former President Edwin Barclay visited here in 1943 Mr. Walker and our own Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis opposed the idea of his doing or saying anything to which black folk of America, eager and hopeful that he would, might recognize in him the real champion of darker peoples. Although making a contribution to the war effort, Liberia has failed to say anything about the type of peace it would like to see. Visiting chiefs of states before him never failed to avail themselves of the American forum on this point.

It is difficult at this moment to see that the desire for full expression in the peace on the part of colored peoples the world over is going to be realized. To be sure, three black nations will have seats at the "peace table"; but among them there has been no exchange of views nor collaboration on this point. At the same time, the dereliction through the years on the part of American Negroes and our opinion moulders is beginning to show the costliness of inertia when it comes to matters outside the range of more immediate domestic problems.

NEXT MONTH

A picture story of what Negro soldiers have done in the Invasion year of 1944—pictures from Italy, England, France and the South Pacific. Some you have seen before, but never in a panorama like this. An issue to be saved for future reference.

For Better Social Security

By Alfred Baker Lewis

The plan for expanded social security which will include millions of Negro workers not now covered is explained by the author

ECONOMIC security is the demand of millions throughout the entire civilized world. Great Britain, under the growth of the British Labor Party, had gone further in providing social insurance for workers than most countries even before the war. Building on this background the Beveridge Plan has been elaborated in Great Britain with a view to providing benefits, at a relatively low cost to the wage earner, to take care of every disability from the cradle to the grave which might prevent any one from earning a living, or, if a child, from getting a decent living from the earnings of his parents.

The United States started late on the task of providing social security. Up to 1930 there was provision for benefits through Workmen's Compensation only for injuries due to industrial accidents alone among the various interruptions to which the income of a wage earner is subject. With the coming of the depression and the New Deal, a substantial beginning was made in making government provision for old age and unemployment. But there are still important gaps in our social security system. The bill for improving the social security program introduced by Senators Wagner of New York and Murray of Montana and Representative Dingell of Michigan, is intended to fill these gaps.

Hodgepodge System

To beign with, our unemployment insurance system is a hodgepodge of 51 different systems covering the 48 states, Alaska, Porto Rico, and the District of Columbia. There are different rates of benefits, different lengths of time during which the benefits are paid, and different requirements for unemployed persons to meet in order to receive benefits. Furthermore, workers going from one state to another in search of work or to return home if they have been doing war work away from home, lose substantial rights under the varying unemployment insurance laws now in effect. The Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill stops this confusion and possible source of loss to the wage earner, and strengthens the actuarial basis of the social security program as far as unemployment is concerned, by establishing a single federal system.

Since the unemployment insurance benefit rates were established by the various states the cost of living has gone up considerably. The Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill accordingly raises the rate of unemployment benefits. It also increases the number of weeks during which one would be paid. It likewise raises the minimum and maximum benefits payable under the old age insurance program for the same reason, namely to meet the increased cost of living and to provide greater security for our veterans of industry.

Many groups are now left outside the benefits of both old age and unemployment insurance divisions of social security. The most important of these groups are farm laborers, domestic servants, and the employees of religious, charitable, and educational organizations. The bill would include all three of these groups within the social security program for old age and unemployment insurance benefits and likewise for the benefits, both in cash and care, provided in the bill for the sick and injured. The inclusion of farm laborers and domestic servants among the beneficiaries of social insurance is particularly important for Negroes, because Negroes have been heavily concentrated in these lines of work. That is one of the reasons why the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has endorsed the bill.

Persons who are totally disabled are now outside the social security program. The bill would include them in the program and provide for them the same benefits that the aged receive, provided only that they submit to a retraining program if there is a reasonable expectation that they will again earn a reasonable wage despite their handicaps.

Farm workers would get social security under new bill.

There is no provision now for benefits to persons who are sick or temporarily injured, (unless injured while at work) either for medical care or money benefits. Yet such provision is badly needed. When a man is sick or injured, his expenses go up. But the income of wage earners, unlike the income of corporation executives or of wealthy people deriving their living from rent, interest, dividends, or profits, stops when they are unable to work because of illness or injury. At present, just when a wage earners' expenses increase his income stops.

Better Medical Care

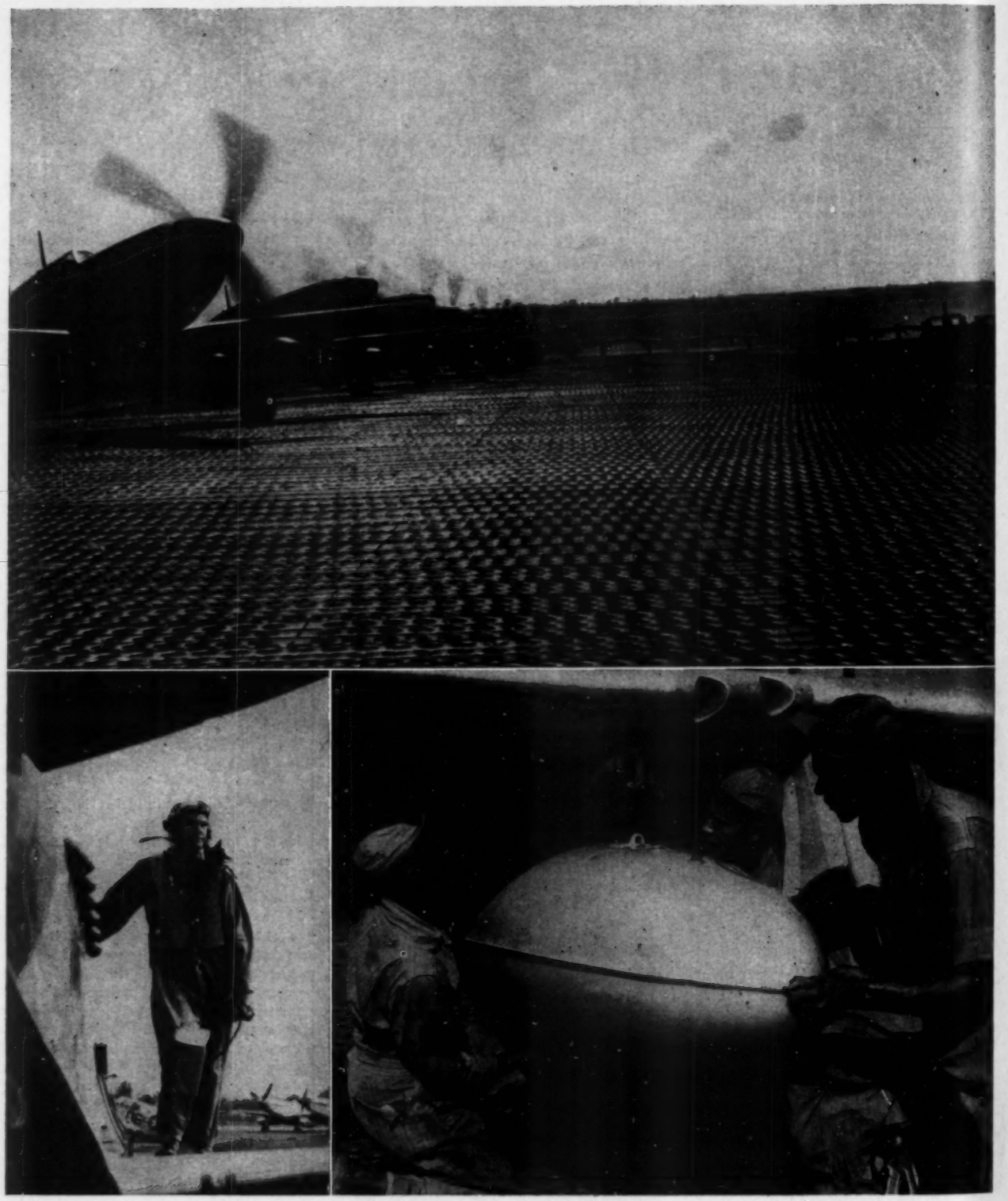
Many thousands of physicians and surgeons do splendid work free for patients who cannot afford to pay. In the larger cities hospitals provide medical care free or at much less than cost. Yet on the whole doctors gravitate to the richer localities and they tend, such being human nature, to pay more attention to relatively slight ills if they are suffered by wealthy patients, than to more serious sicknesses if the afflicted person is poor.

Finally there is very little that the individual doctor in practice can do to clean up social conditions, such as bad housing, which breed ill-health, no matter how much he may want to. Preventive medicine cannot be carried on effectively by individual practitioners.

The need for better medical care for society as a whole and for individuals is thus plan beyond cavil. The present system of medical practice tends to draw competent doctors from the rural areas (because they tend to be the poorer areas) and from the poorer urban districts and concentrate them in wealthy localities; and in all localities the poorer people whose condition of living makes them need medical care the most get it the least. If there were any doubt about the question, the shockingly high rate of rejections for physical disabilities in the draft should prove that the country as a whole and the lower paid groups in particular are not getting proper or even adequate medical care.

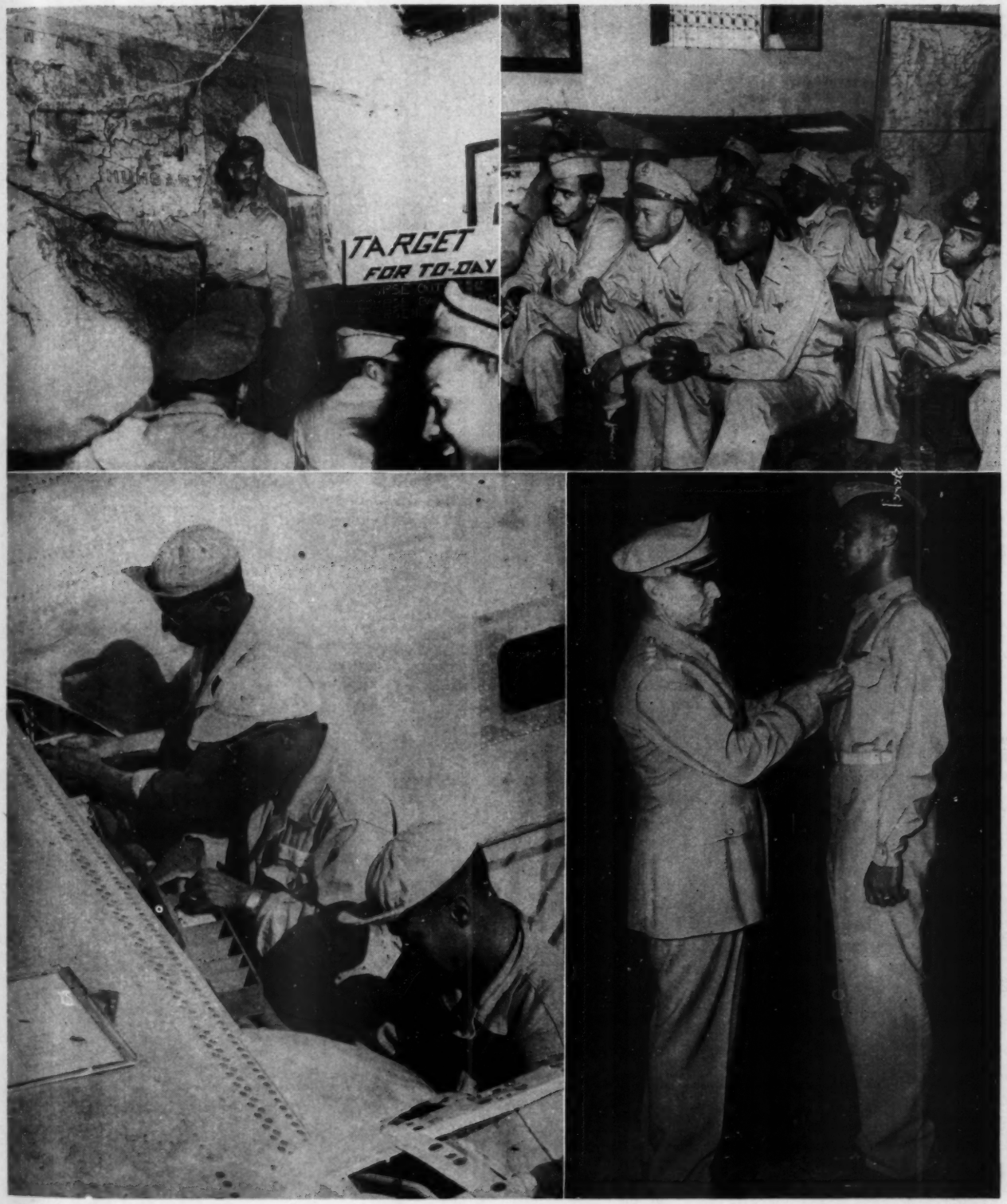
The Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill tries to meet this situation by providing cash benefits to the people who are sick or injured at substantially the same rate as for the unemployed and by providing medical and surgical care

(*Continued on page* 357)



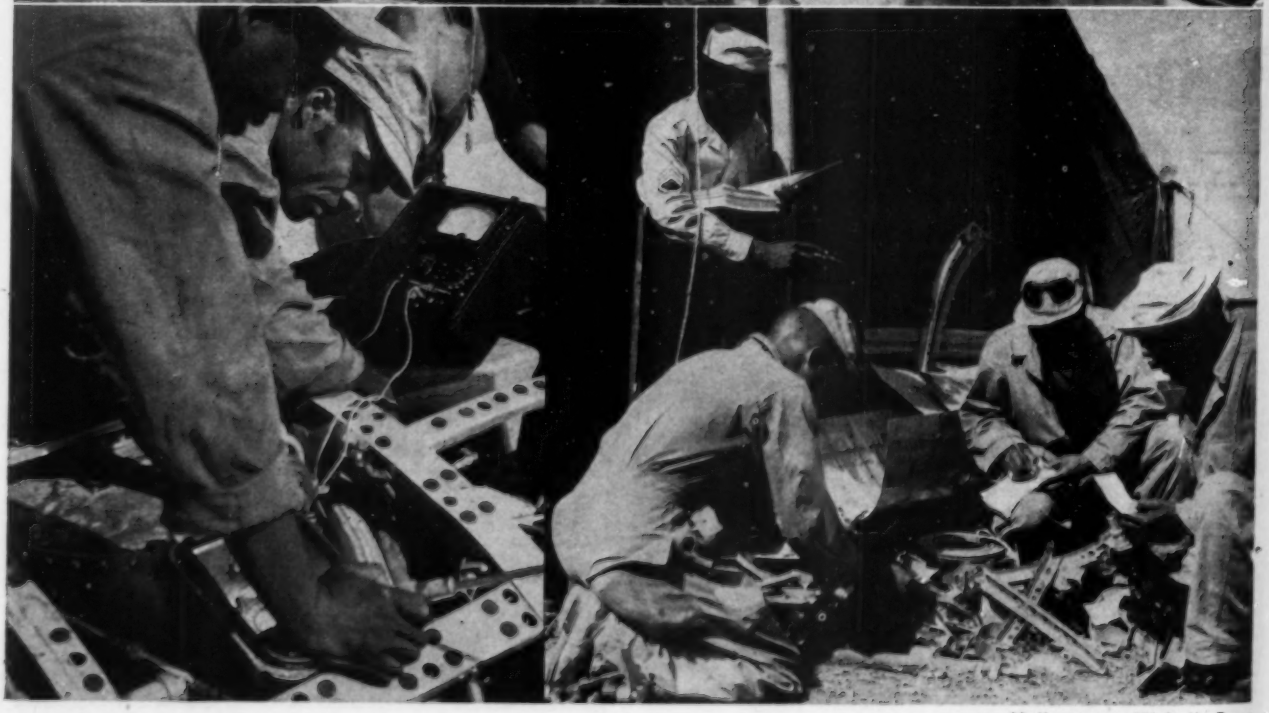
Mediterranean Allied Air Forces

OUR AIRMEN OVERSEAS—*Fast, deadly P-51 Mustang fighter planes of the 15th Air Force in Italy are shown warming up for a mission on a runway of interlocking steel mats. The all-Negro fighter group pilots now use Mustangs to protect Flying Fortresses and Liberator bombers. Below, left, Colonel B. O. Davis, jr., commander of the group. Right, attaching an auxiliary gas tank for long range work. Left to right, Tech. Sgt. Charles K. Haynes, St. Louis, Mo.; Staff Sgt. James A. Sheppard, New York; Master Sgt. Frank Bradley, Indianapolis, Ind.*



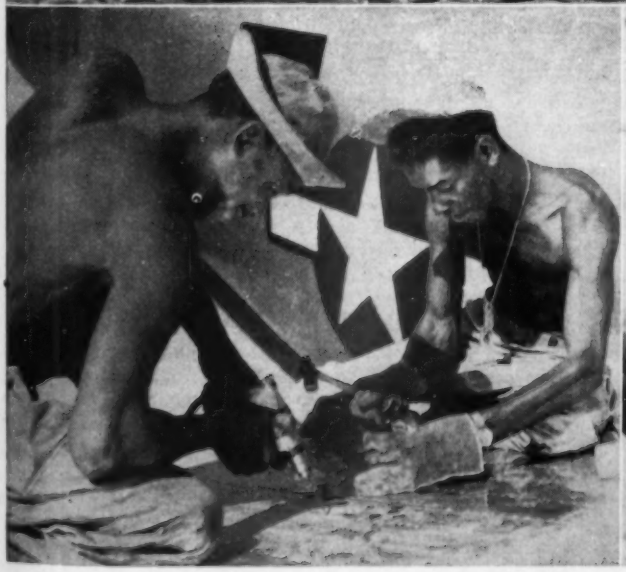
Mediterranean Allied Air Forces

OUR AIRMEN OVERSEAS—*Lt. Edward C. Gleed, Horton, Kansas, explains to pilots the "target for today." These lads flew fighter protection for the bombers that softened up Southeastern Europe and Southern France prior to the invasion. Below, left, front to rear, Sgt. Howard Ashby, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Sgt. Robert Jones, Griffin, Ga.; and Sgt. Julius Ligon, Terre Haute, Ind., aircraft electricians, removing damaged cables and wires in the wing of a B-24 Liberator bomber after a mission. Right, Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, commander of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, pins the Legion of Merit on Col. B. O. Davis, jr.*



Mediterranean Allied Air Forces

OUR AIRMEN OVERSEAS—*Staff Sgt. Joe Louis was guest at a banquet for Allied boxers in Italy and presented American, British and Italian boxers with medals for participating in matches. First Sgt. Charles R. Roman, Pittsburgh, Pa., shaking hands with Louis, helped train boxers. Below, left, Staff Sgt. Alpheus Gilmore, Ft. Myers, Fla. (foreground) and Sgt. Enoch LaTrouche, New York, test for electrical connections damage in the flak-riddled wing of a big bomber. Right, Staff Sgt. John A. Stinson, Holly Springs, Miss. (with catalogue) and left to right, Tech. Sgt. James DeLegal, New York; Corp. William C. Stevenson, Canton, O.; and Corp. James Abston, Nashville, Tenn., check serviceable spare parts removed from damaged aircraft.*



Mediterranean Allied Air Forces

OUR AIRMEN OVERSEAS—*In the shadow of the skipper's plane, some pilots talk over their mission. Left to right, Lt. Dempsey W. Morgan, jr., Detroit, Mich.; Lt. Carroll S. Woods, Valdosta, Ga.; Lt. Robert H. Nelson, jr., Pittsburgh, Pa.; Capt. Andrew D. Turner, Washington, D. C.; and Lt. Clarence P. (Lucky) Lester, Chicago, Ill. Lt. Lester shot down three German planes on a recent mission. Below, left, Staff Sgt. Luther Crowe, New York, and Corp. John W. Brookins, Brooklyn, N. Y., sheet metallists, repair the wing of a B-24 bomber. Right, mechanics who keep the fighter planes in top shape: Staff Sgt. Calvin P. Thierry, propeller specialist, New York; Staff Sgt. William E. Pitts, Los Angeles, Calif.; and Staff Sgt. Vernon C. Richardson, New York, engine specialists; and Staff Sgt. Harold T. Cobb, Atlantic Highlands, N. J.*

What the Negro Soldier Thinks

By Grant Reynolds

In this third article of a series the author tells the thoughts of the Negro soldier on home front indignities

THE War department has at long last done something which will bring joy to the hearts of Negro soldiers. It has announced that it is discontinuing its "FOREIGN LEGION" outpost, Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Thousands of our colored fighting men in all theatres of combat will say when this news reaches them: "Well, it's about time."

These men will remember how the War department not only isolated them in the middle of a desert thirty-four miles from the nearest railroad junction, but placed their destiny in the hands of an unreconstructed southerner from Tennessee as Post Commander. They will remember how devotedly homage was paid to the sacred cow of race prejudice on a post which was referred to as "The Home of the Negro Soldier." In this respect those who had children out there will remember how their children were insulted and humiliated by the Jim-Crow school system which was maintained on this United States Army military reservation. Children of Negro and Indian parentage (these Indians representing the last of the old Apache Scouts of the U. S. Army) were directed to the "colored school." On the other hand "white" Mexicans. (white in this instance referring not to the color of skin, but rather to the absence of Negro blood) Chinese and Caucasians attended the "white school." A Mexican widow with children who by chance married a Negro soldier would thereby be forced to send her children to the "colored school."

Still others will remember, and this is especially true in the case of a Negro chaplain of my acquaintance, how a white officer drove a Negro officer and his wife from a table in the only restaurant on the post which was supposed to cater to all races alike. Interestingly, but nonetheless unforgivable, the restaurant was operated by a Chinese.

Burned indelibly into the minds of thousands of Negro soldiers will forever remain the insult which was manifested in the "protection" given white girls on the post. An electrified barbed wire fence surrounded their dormitory, but no such "protective device" was provided for the colored girls who lived on the same post.

The "Hook"

Negro soldiers will never forget the famous "Hook," and thousands of decent men will never forgive the War department for allowing its existence. This little disease-infested area lay just south of the main entrance to the fort. Comprised of ramshackle huts, tents, and vermin-infested adobe structures, this disgraceful community did a thriving though deadly business in prostitution. Electric lights, pavement, running water, or any other signs of sanitation were entirely unknown. Yet this pest-hole of venereal disease was allowed to flourish at the very front door of the "Home for the Negro Soldier."

Due to his deplorable environmental conditions the Negro, more than any other segment of the American population, has suffered from the ravages of social diseases. The War department has gone to great expense and considerable effort to protect its soldiers from this deadly killer. There was a time when Fort Huachuca apparently did not come within the purview of this program.

Any calculation of the cost in terms of treatment and training hours lost due to the prevalence of venereal disease at Fort Huachuca must have reached a staggering figure. Add to this the psychological cost in terms of employment for Negroes and the total becomes incalculable.

While I was stationed at this fort I did not fail to give full expression of my disgust with the Post authorities for allowing this place to operate. In my sex morality lectures I not only painted the "Hook" as an insult to the decency of colored soldiers and a threat to their physical well-being, but did not fail to contend that it could not have existed adjacent to any other post in the nation. I have a strong feeling that my crusade did little to win for me the esteem of my superiors. After having served in a southern army camp and having been literally driven out I was used to being held in the contempt of those who mistreated Negro soldiers. When I was finally driven from this post my wife was told that if I had kept my mouth shut I could have remained there for the duration. Could this have had reference to my crusade against the "Hook"? I wonder. On the other hand the answer to my question might be found in a statement which was directed at me by one of the white chaplains when he rebuked me saying: "You are too enthused over the solution of the race problem on this post." Now, I ask you!

White Entertainers Barred

Negro soldiers who were inhabitants (prisoners would perhaps be a more descriptive word) of this post will never forget the makeshift type of entertainment which was provided for them. The army has gone to greater lengths in this war than in any other to build good morale. Millions of dollars have been spent in providing American soldiers with good entertainment. In this respect I hasten to add that I do not share the belief of those who state that the American soldier has thus been coddled. I think that our soldiers of all races are entitled to all the entertainment they have received and more.

To accomplish this purpose big advertisers have helped both the men and themselves by making available the various radio shows which delight the American radio public. So profitable to morale have such shows as Bob Hope, Eddie Cantor, Red Skelton and others been that they have played the same military camps on several occasions. Nor has the best that radio, Hollywood, and the legitimate stage have to offer been restricted to men training in this country. Luminaries of the entertainment world have carried their specialties to the far-flung battlefields of the world in an effort to keep the American soldier "on the beam." That this has been an heroic undertaking no one will doubt.

With this excellent record as a background it is interesting to observe what happened at Fort Huachuca. The list of entertainment features offered for the enjoyment of the Negro soldier is conspicuous by the absence of any such talent as I have just described. The one exception to this, and upon which hangs the supposed reason why white troupes of entertainers passed Fort Huachuca by, was the visit of a Hollywood blonde and a white comedian. It was dubiously claimed that on this occasion an attempt was made to molest the blonde. It was also admitted that no one ever saw the supposed prowler and therefore his identity will forever remain a mystery. It was immediately assumed, however, that a Negro soldier was responsible for the disturbance. Her partner in giving account of what happened suggested that perhaps no one molested her and that the incident was undoubtedly the result of a figment of her imagination since she was possessed of an unstable and highly emotional personality.

Regardless of what happened in the above mentioned situation it cast poor reflection upon the post authorities and the entertainment world for thus penalizing Negro soldiers. It must be said in the interest of the performers, however, that they could not force themselves upon the military authorities. The War department then must assume the responsibility.

Negro performers alone were permitted to entertain at Huachuca. Such stars as Lena

Horne, Rochester, and Hattie McDaniel gained entrance to the desert outpost. Special praise is due Miss Horne for the many visits she made and for giving generously of her best in the interest on the morale of the men of her race. Under these circumstances it is entirely fitting and proper that she was crowned "queen of the 92nd Division."

There are scores of other reasons why Negro soldiers will rejoice over the announced closing of Ft. Huachuca. They will hardly shed a tear over its demise nor offer a prayer for its resurrection. In fact their joy can be measured in the same degree as their disappointment over the recovery of Senator Bilbo from his recent operation.

War Prisoners

Headlines in the press a few days ago carried news of a clash between Negro soldiers and Italian war prisoners. In the melee it was reported that several of the prisoners were severely hurt and one was found hanging from a tree. The locale of this unfortunate incident was the state of Washington in the far Northwest. A few days later the headlines again informed the nation of still another revolt among Negro service men. At Mare Island, California, Negro sailors refused to load and unload high explosives and a mass court martial was conducted during which fifty of their number were tried for mutiny. About the same time news from reliable sources revealed that Negro casuals at Camp Gordon Johnston, Florida, had refused to obey orders and faced punitive military action. Add to this the uprising at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, in which a Negro soldier was killed and a white officer badly wounded and we get still another example of the thought patterns of Negro soldiers during this war.

To an observer unacquainted with the inhuman treatment so often accorded Negro soldiers such news comes not only as a shock but suggests that Negro soldiers are letting their country down. On the contrary, it is the country that has let the Negro soldier down. To prove this let us look behind the scenes and discover the reasons for this strange conduct.

In the state of Washington, far removed from the traditional race bitterness so characteristic of the South, one hardly expects to hear that Negro soldiers, during a period of war have thus jeopardized their very lives. Unfortunately the United States army has carried southern racial hatred and backwardness wherever it has gone. George Goodman, writing in the Fall number of *Common Ground* describes the result of this viciousness. Englishmen were actually told that Negro soldiers possessed long tails. The English families were therefore warned that if these men sat on hard-bottom chairs it would irritate their curious appendage to such a degree that they would be driven into a state of rage. The intent of spreading such malicious and damaging falsehoods was to drive a wedge between the English people and the very American soldiers who came to defend them and their homeland. This explains how the army has spread the infection of color prejudice throughout the bloodstream of both the nation and the world.

Within the broad ramifications of such evil lies the reason for the clash at Walla Walla, Washington. Negro soldiers had put up with humiliation and abuse to the extent that their patience reached the breaking point. They could no longer endure seeing prisoners of war, many of whom had possibly killed their comrades on foreign battlefields, enjoy in this country the very facilities which they were denied. It is inconceivable that Negro soldiers under normal circumstances would develop anti-Italian sentiments. One must therefore place credence in the report that the Negro soldiers involved in the clash did so only because in their opinion it was the only way to focus American public opinion upon their unhappy plight.

This explanation, however plausible, cannot be accepted as justification for mob action. Moreover, the Negro who has been traditionally the American victim of such brutality can ill-afford to embrace it as a means of assuaging his bitterness. America would do well, however, to interpret this deplorable situation in the light of what it portends for the future. Negro soldiers are reaching a state of desperation. They will hardly accept their former status of second class citizenship when they are returned to civilian life.

Ammunition Loaders

The case involving the refusal of Negro sailors to load and unload high explosives is also worth examining. While the general reasons for this mutinous conduct lies in the traditional Navy policy of relegating Negro sailors to the insulting categories of menial service there is a specific reason in this case which becomes understandable to those who have a trace of human sympathy and understanding. Many of these men had been among the survivors of the Port Chicago tragedy during which more than two hundred of their comrades had been blown to bits in an explosion. They had gathered up the fragments of the multilated bodies of their former buddies. The psychological strain produced thereby, aggravated by the general resentment they have built up against the Navy for the way they have been treated, must be considered in passing judgment upon such men. To expect this is to expect the inconceivable. The American military establishment has long since demonstrated that it is total lacking in both decency and conscience where the Negro service man is concerned. The traditional beast of burden has no right to complain. When he does the whip and the lash are applied and the white military mind finds justification for its application.

United States Navy policy, in spite of the spasmodic commissioning of a handful of Negro ensigns, is far more vicious than that of the army, if that is possible. The navy has never established a Negro civilian aide to whom Negroes could carry their grievances. (There are many Negroes who think that they suffer no loss if the establishment of such a position would be as innocuous as that of the civilian aide to the Secretary of War.) This does serve to convince Negro mothers and fathers that the navy gives not a tinkers dam about the just grievances of their sons in uniform. These men have been rendered psychologically unfit to give their best service to their country. When the immortal Shakespeare wrote: "The fault, Dear Brutus, is not in our stars that we are underlings, but in ourselves" he most certainly did not contemplate the application of the same to Negro sailors. The gods of justice might better be served if those responsible for the miserable plight of the Mare Island mutineers were tried in mass court martial instead of the innocent victims of their despicable policies.

The Florida Soldiers

At Camp Gordon Johnston, Florida, where Negro soldiers refused to obey military orders, they were faced with conditions that must shock the sensibilities of the most callous. White soldiers training on this primitive reservation, which was without modern facilities for waste disposal it is said, could not be induced to work the "sugar detail" in spite of the added remuneration of three ($3) dollars per day in addition to their regular monthly pay. On the same post, it was reported, there was resident large numbers of war prisoners. There is no way of knowing whether these former killers of American soldiers were ordered to work the infamous "sugar detail" or not. Negro soldiers, however, many of whom were casuals (men declared physically and mentally unfit for regular military duty) were ordered to work the aforementioned detail as a matter of routine. Because they expressed resentment for such a filthy assignment they were brought face to face with the dire consequences inherent in disobedience to military orders. For the enlightenment of the uninitiated the term "sugar detail" refers to the assignment of soldiers to dispose of ten (10) gallon cans of human body waste.

I must repeat again, in order to free myself of any charge of encouraging poor discipline among Negro soldiers still in the army, that this does not imply any attitude on my part to condone or encourage any actual or contemplated refusal on the part of Negro service men to obey given military commands. However, Almighty God himself must look with pity upon American soldiers receiving such treatment from the nation they stand ready to defend with their lives. God, if He is just, must also look with wrathful indignation upon the perpetrators of such indecencies who visit their beastly debasement upon His children simply because in

(*Continued on page* 357)

Jim Crow Menaces Haiti

By Max L. Hudicourt

Racial harmony in Haiti is being menaced, says this writer, by American imported race prejudice

IN Saint Marc last April 25 the Haitian government dedicated a commemorative column in celebration of the one-hundred-sixty-fifth anniversary of the embarkation, in 1779, of the Haitian volunteers who aided the United States in their struggle for independence. There were eight hundred of these men, eight hundred men of color who played a gloriously victorious role in the bloody battle of Savannah.

Haiti at the time was not yet a free republic, and these volunteers were very young mulatto youths and free blacks who had already dreamt of the period of the Haitian war of independence of 1804, which was in part the work of these same volunteers of Savannah.

The celebration in Saint Marc was the occasion for Mr. Cordell Hull's message to the Haitian people:

> The ceremony which is being performed today at Saint Marc pays a long recognized debt of gratitude to the Haitian volunteers who came to the aid of the United States of America in its struggle for independence. At this time when Haiti and the United States are again partners in a war of liberation, we recall with pride this early evidence of the common love of freedom which has moved the peoples of both countries and provides the foundation upon which the friendly relations between our two countries have been built. We pay tribute today to the courage and spirit of the volunteers of 1779 who risked their lives in the cause of freedom in the Americas, and we are confident that their example of devotion and brotherly sacrifices will help to guide us in realizing the ideal of a better and peaceful world for which our countries are striving together.

Though born under such good auspices, the relations of Haiti and the United States have not always evolved in an atmosphere of frankness and sympathetic collaboration. Negro haters with their aggressive, imperialistic policies pushed their ridiculous conduct to the point of violating the independence of the young black republic of the Caribbean, even to the landing of Marines and the establishment of a twenty-year military occupation. This occupation left the two peoples with such bitter memories that the situation would have been hopeless if many American organizations and influential American citizens had not openly protested against this unjust interference in the affairs of the only Negro republic in this hemisphere. In this regard, we remember with pleasure that the NAACP under the leadership of Mr. Walter White fought courageously to free Haiti of American military control. So when I came to the United States three years ago, I remembered this aid to my country and visited Mr. White. He then told me the painful story of the conduct of a former Haitian president.

Vincent Bowed to Prejudice

At the time of the nationalist campaign for the liberation of Haiti, the Haitian people sent a mission to the United States to assist in this propaganda, and it was received with enthusiasm by Mr. White, who was given the full support of the NAACP in the matter. Some time later one of these delegates became president of Haiti and went on an official visit to the United States. In the name of the NAACP, Mr. White was eager to receive this chief of state from a neighboring country, the only real black republic of the continent. But this chief of state declined Mr. White's invitation, since he thought this an excellent way of collaborating with the State Department of the United States. Mr. White later learned that this executive had consulted American friends upon the advisability of associating with Negroes in the United States—of course, this Haitian president is a Negro himself.

I have dug up this ten-year-old incident because it is being repeated under almost similar circumstances by our present president, Lescot, who is Vincent's successor. I read a series of articles in the Chicago *Defender* exposing the anti-Negro conduct of the Haitian executive and I was very much disturbed during this period of liberalism when

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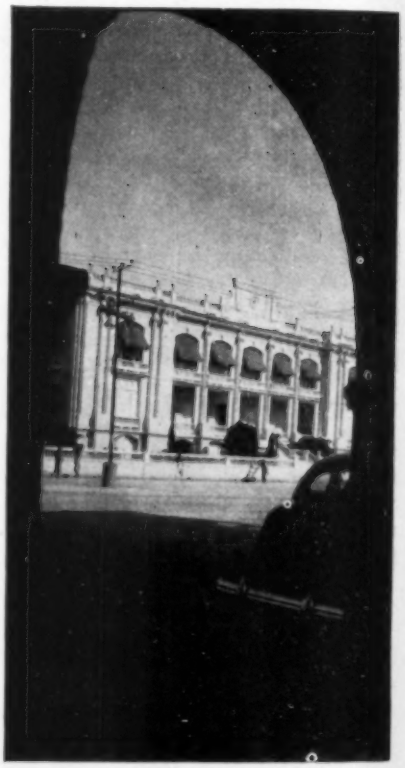


Right, City Hall in Port au Prince; below, street scene showing National Bank of Haiti (with clock) opposite Royal Bank of Canada.

Anglo-American Plan for Control of Colonies

By George Padmore

WHAT portends the visit to London of Field Marshal—or, as he modestly prefers to be styled, General—Smuts and his entry into the conclaves of the supreme Imperial Directorate, the War Cabinet?

When it became necessary at the end of the First World War to drape "the crudity of conquest in the veil of morality," General Smuts, willing collaborator of the British Imperialism, devised Article 22 of the League of Nations Covenant, which became the basis of the Mandates System. This covering device enabled Britain and her Dominions to carve over 500,000 square miles out of the prostrate carcasses of the German and Turkish Colonial Empires.

Today, Germany has no overseas empire, and the Italian Empire, in Mr. Churchill's words, "is irretrievably lost." But only to Italy, of course. Some other Power or Powers will most readily assume the "white man's burden" for these territories. And as things are, these Powers can be only Britain and America. France, who shared the spoils with Britain in 1918, is now disqualified.

America, however, has indicated through Mr. Henry Villard, Assistant Chief of the State Department's Division of Near Eastern Affairs, that its "Government, in keeping with its traditional policy throughout the world, has no designs on the colonial possessions of other nations, and no desire to carve for its exclusive benefit any portion of Africa."

This, then, leaves Britain alone to take advantage of any colonial spoils. With the prospect of approaching triumph, therefore, there is pressing need of a formulated colonial plan which will present an international facade to the world. Whatever democratic camouflage the politicians may decide upon, however, any plan for reconstitution of Empire must encompass at least three objectives:

1. Retention of political sovereignty of its colonial territories by the possessing Power;

2. Accommodation of America's commercial and strategic requirements. For the U.S.A. will emerge from this war as the dominant imperialist power, whose needs for new markets, sources of raw materials, air and sea bases, etc., will have to be satisfied.

3. Appeasement of the aspirations of Colonial peoples for self-government.

Here at once are contradictions which can be resolved only with extreme difficulty, if they can be resolved at all. So British imperialists have once again called in that master of political legerdemain, General Smuts, who aided by the late Lord Lothian, Ambassador to Washington, so ably designed a cloak

Apparently the last thing the British intend to give up are their colonies, but in order to justify holding them and adding others, she must work out some plan with a democratic facade, and this General Jan Christiaan Smuts has very cleverly done

for colonial depredations after the last war. The General has not been found lacking, and has evolved a scheme which is being boosted under the title of "Regionalism."

Inasmuch as this Boer politician has been built up by the City of London—whose interests he so ably represents in South Africa against the intransigent Afrikanders—as a man remarkable for his statesmanship and probity, his proposals are vested with extreme authority. Moreover, the very fact of his being Dutch and not British, is less likely to arouse the suspicions of the City's Wall Street rivals.

Smuts' Plan

Roughly, General Smuts's plan proposes to group the various colonial territories of the several powers into loose geographical regions. Each group of territories would be covered by a Consultative Regional Council, on which would sit representatives of the various powers possessing colonies in the respective zone, and also of states having strategic and/or commercial interests in that area. Thus the Caribbean territories — British, French, Dutch, etc.—would be united into a West Indian Region under a joint council in which the possessing powers, and also America, Canada and Newfoundland, because of strategic and commercial interests, would participate. The various colonies of the Indian Ocean and South Pacific (Ceylon, Mauritius, Dutch Indies), would be grouped into another region; while a Mediterranean and Near East zone would incorporate Malta, Cyprus, Palestine, Syria, and North Africa.

The West African colonies of the Gambia, Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast and Nigeria, together with the adjoining French colonies

British Combine

Paramount Chief Azzu Mate Kole of the African Gold Coast broadcasting an appeal to his people to increase their support of the war effort by producing more palm kernels and palm oil. Behind the chief is his boy attendant carrying the gold mounted Sword of State. Big colonial question is: will these chiefs be permitted to broadcast for Four Freedoms after the war?

(French West and Equatorial Africa), Portuguese Angola, and the one or two strips of Spanish territory, would be brought into a West African Region under a Franco-British-Portuguese-Spanish Regional Council. Here again, America would be offered certain interests, because of the proximity of points like Dakar and Bathurst, Freetown and Monrovia, to the South American countries (Brazil in particular), who might also seek representation. In East Africa, a similar group would comprise Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, British, French and Italian Somaliland, and parts of Abyssinia, under joint South African, British, French and Italian control. (Count Sforza, Marshal "poison-gas" Badoglio's Charlie McCarthy, is plugging for an Italian mandate over Abyssinia.) The mandate of Southwest Africa and the Protectorates of Basutoland, Swaziland and Bechuanaland would be annexed to the Union of South Africa; and these, together with the two Rhodesias, Nyasaland, and the Belgian Congo and Portuguese territory of Mozambique, would be linked up to form a Greater South Africa region. It is within this regional group that South Africa hopes to exert the dominant influence.

Behind General Smuts's regional plan for Southern Africa, euphemistically described as "Pan-Africanism," is a conscious drive for wider internal markets for the output of the commodity interests which the war has inaugurated and expanded in the Union. The factories now producing for the war will be turned over to consumer goods when hostilities have ceased, in order to stave off unemployment and economic collapse. As well as with Britain, one of the big post-war problems facing the Union Government is the absorption of demobilized army men.

This "Regionalism," as a matter of fact, will give every assistance to the annexationist proclivities of the European settlers in South Africa, as it will provide them with a screen for the alienation of those native protectorates which the Colonial Office has been loath to turn over to them against progressive British public opinion.

Function of Regionalism

"Regionalism" will allow these territories to be incorporated into the new political set-up without opposition. General Smuts has already accepted in principle a recent resolution from the completely white legislative assembly of the mandatory territory of South-West Africa for incorporation of this country in the Union as a fifth province. South-West Africa has a white population of about 25,000 and a native one of 250,000, and is presumed to be a ward of the League of Nations. General Smuts, therefore, not to antagonize public opinion in America at this time, has tactfully suggested to the European settlers that the matter should be left in abeyance until the whole problem of the redistribution of colonies is settled at the end of the war. The incorporation of this and other neighboring territories into the Union is also aimed at tapping greater reserve of native labour for the mining industries and large-scale agriculture.

In general, "Regionalism" will consolidate the power of the white minorities in South Africa by bringing the various European communities within broader political frontiers. "Regionalism" propagandised as "Pan-Africanism," has an appeal for all Europeans in Southern Africa, but different sections in each of the territories concerned look to it to foster their own particular interests. For instance, the 20,000 Boers in Southern Rhodesia would like that country to be included in the Union, but the 40,000 Anglo-Saxons, while in favour of Smuts's "Pan-African" idea, do not wish to be brought under Afrikander domination. Rather, they desire to carry on their own little Anglo-Saxon imperialist expansion, although quite willing to cooperate with the Afrikanders in the Union against the "black menace."

A constant fear of all these European settlers, Dutch and British, is the possibility of their being swamped by the overwhelmingly larger black populations, and it is thought that the new regional groupings would incidentally provide new lands for the increased white immigration which their governments intend to promote as a means of swelling the European minorities. The Union of South Africa is particularly sensitive to this problem and would like to see an influx of 20 million Europeans. Sir Godfrey Huggins, prime minister of Southern Rhodesia, too, has under consideration a scheme for introducing 500,000 more Anglo-Saxons into the country. The settlers lament that their number is limited to 60,000, and they consider their augmentation necessary on the grounds that European domination in Rhodesia will be eliminated unless a large white population is established; and this they maintain would be most disastrous for the native population, for whose progress the presence of white overlords is an absolute necessity. And where do these white settlers look to augment their numbers? To the little island of Britain, with its 46 million inhabitants, already declared by Mr. Churchill to be too small for power politics. Pity the poor Britons!

Viewed realistically, General Smuts's scheme will offer opportunities for colonial annexation for which the Mandates System has prepared the way. But we should now take a look to see how it will also meet the other requirements indicated above.

Question of Sovereignty

Coming first to the question of sovereignty. General Smuts has declared that a provision of the Regional Councils is that they shall be purely consultative and have no administrative or executive powers. This idea has been endorsed by Colonel Oliver Stanley, Secretary of State for Colonies. A principle of the Regional Scheme is that the possessing powers shall retain political control of their colonies. The question of sovereignty is a fundamental one, for political control reserves the right to the colonial power to place its own nationals on the administrations, and gives it economic prerogatives, even though these will have to be shared with America in certain regions.

For the potentialities of United States production have increased enormously during the war, and even its vast continental domestic market will be absolutely unable to absorb its output. Wall Street is also accumulating greater and greater financial reserves for which it must seek avenues of investment abroad. General Smuts believes that the participation of America in his "regional" set-up would offer here those spheres for capital investment of which she will stand so much in need, and markets for capital goods and machinery. All of this will be a welcome necessity to the settlers in South Africa and the Rhodesias who have not themselves the resources to expand their industries. Referring to America's role in the form of post-war colonial cooperation, General Smuts told Reuters special correspondent in Pretoria on August 27 last that he was "all in favour of the Americans coming to Africa, and I support the idea of consultative councils on which America, as well as Britain and other interested countries, would be represented. America wants to trade and is opposed to imperialism or annexation."

It is quite true that American Big Business does not seem anxious to acquire political control of colonies, at any rate in Africa. Dollar diplomacy can secure the United States all the advantages it seeks without the responsibilities of policing overseas territories with Marines. This attitude is not evidence of any unique aversion of American Imperialism to expand territorially, but is rather the outcome of its world economic superiority. America today stands in that unique position which Britain occupied in the middle of the last century, when she was the workshop of the world, its banker and shipper; when Disraeli could say "colonies are millstones around our neck." Today Britain's industrial and financial supremacy has been superseded by that of America, and it is Mr. Roosevelt and not Mr. Churchill who can describe colonies as "millstones around our neck." Thus, the President has declared for Philippine independence before the due date in 1946, and has also recommended to Congress that the natives of Puerto Rico be allowed to select their governor as a step towards either self-government or inclusion as another state within the U.S.A. When you are rich you can afford to be generous!

Whether, however, America participates in any scheme of international cooperation or resumes her inter-war role of isolationism is all one as far as her world economic dominance is concerned. In an imperialistic age, she, the greatest imperialist power, must play lead, and all other interests will finally be subordinated to hers.

(Continued on next page)

Smuts' Internationalism

International cooperation such as that envisaged in General Smuts's proposal will, there is no doubt, provide a means of satisfying the "Open Door" policy and "the Most-Favoured Nation Principle" which leading Americans are demanding, although others, in particular Wendell Willkie, look upon any retention of the old political Empire structure as standing in the way of Yankee interests. Mr. Willkie represents that point of view which believes that if colonial territories are free of the direct political control of European Government, especially Britain, the native Asiatic, African and West Indian bourgeoisies are more likely to turn to Wall Street than to the "City" of London for the capital machinery and financial assistance they will require to establish some kind of modern industry within their new sovereign states. This is the basis of Mr. Willkie's advocacy of colonial independence, which is a very clever manoeuvre, since it enlists the sympathetic support of large sections of public opinion in America and the Colonies.

If "Regionalism" will offer likely accommodation of American interests, how will it achieve appeasement of the national aspirations of colonial populations? Among the proposals put forward is one for "association" of natives on the Regional councils, and behind this can be detected a very tricky device to put off the self-government of those territories which are considered to be almost "ripe" for it at the present time, while the need of independence of more backward countries cannot possibly have any raison d'etre in a regionally constituted world.

The British Tories intend to meet the national aspirations of the native peoples, which have been stimulated and reinforced by the lofty ideals embodied in the Atlantic Charter and Roosevelt's Four Freedoms, by offering satisfaction in very minor representation by members of their intelligentsia on councils, commissions and legislative bodies, and a wider participation in local administrative services, hitherto exclusively preserved for Britishers. Already fourteen natives from the colonies of British West Africa have been brought to this country under the aegis of the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund to be trained in social service. When they have graduated, these men will be returned to their countries to take over from the ignorant chiefs who at present administrate under the benevolence of indirect rule, and will be used to put a brake on the African independence movement.

To this end, a native elite will be sponsored and groomed for government service. While satisfying the ambitions of this section of the middle-class intelligentsia, this method, so like the French pre-war system of "assimilating" certain natives, will deprive the mass of workers and peasants of their potential leadership.

Considered from the angle of the three objectives posed, General Smuts's scheme would seem to contain possibilities of meeting the post-war needs of British capitalism in the colonial sphere. Even as the Mandates System carried over British Imperialism between the First and Second World Wars, "Regionalism" will contrive to carry it over into the Third World War. For this third war is inevitable, and any scheme endeavouring to accommodate all the insoluble conflicts inherent in capitalist-imperialism can only be a patchwork one, a hand to mouth contrivance capable only of temporary service. It is impossible to devise any plan to control the uncontrollable complexities of a competitive system, in which diplomacy has finally to seek its political objectives in war.

Social Security

(*Continued from page* 347)

and funds for preventive medicine and for research.

The cost of all this is to be paid by contributions of 6% of their pay from wage earners and 6% of their payroll from employers, plus 7% of their income from the self-employed, up to incomes of $3,000 in each case. Persons who are self-employed get the benefits provided in the bill for old age insurance, survivors insurance, (i.e. payments to widows and young children of those who die prematurely) permanent disability payments, and medical and hospital care, but not cash payments for unemployment, sickness, or temporary injury. This cost is admittedly high. The authors of the bill intended it to be high in order to provide a sort of compulsory savings which would lay up a fund now when wages are high and there is full employment in order to take care of the unemployment that most people expect will develop after the war. Ideally some of the funds should be provided by the government out of money raised by general taxation, including taxes on big incomes, inheritance, corporation profits, and the profits from gambling in real estate, or on the stock or commodity exchanges. Many supporters of the bill believe that the method of raising the funds should be changed in this way either before the bill is passed or shortly after.

Despite the obvious need for better social security which would include more people, raise the rate of benefits, and provide cash and care for the sick, the bill has been attacked by reactionaries on the ground that it creates a system of "Socialized Medicine." The bill does nothing of the sort. Under the terms of the bill any doctor who is licensed to practice medicine by any state can provide medical care and get paid for doing so. Any person who needs medical care could select any doctor to give it if he has any particular choice; if he has none he would be assigned a doctor from those physicians who have voluntarily joined the panel of doctors to provide medical care under the bill. Thus there would be complete freedom of choice between the patient and the doctor which is the essence of private practice and the opposite of socialized medicine.

The chief difference between medical practice now and under the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill would be that if the bill were passed physicians could and doubtless would give greater care to poor patients without having to worry about getting paid for such work; and their decisions to give or recommend more treatment would not have to be influenced by wondering whether or not the patient could pay for it. This would tend to increase the total amount of medical care available, and particularly to increase medical care available for poorer people or in poorer localities where it is now most lacking and most needed.

Mumbled Words

Gay, carefree, brotherly,
Friendly soldiers;
A happy circle, they.
But when I pass,
Serving our country too,—
What are those mumbled words, they say?

BOOKER T. MEDFORD

Buy and *Hold* War Bonds

The best way to help America in the war, the best way to back up our boys on the battlefronts of the world is to buy War bonds. The best investment in Freedom and the future is War bonds. Not only buy them, but *hold* them.

What Soldiers Think

(*Continued from page* 353)

His wisdom He chose to give them dark skins. That American soldiers, many of whom are paying with their lives for the fundamental concepts of simple fair play, should be thus dehumanized must come as a shock to the conscience of humanity.

Let us assume that you are a colored service man and that you were faced with any of the aforementioned insults. If after your white commanding officer had in a lecture declared that he was going to see to it that Negro soldiers suffered their full share of casualties in this war, what would be your attitude? If after you had been abused and insulted and then expected to demonstrate a high degree of *esprit de corps* and you found that you were incapable of being a super man, what would be your state of mind?

I shall attempt to answer the above questions in the next and final installment of these articles when I shall bring you the thoughts of the Negro soldier as he looks toward the post war world.

A Blueprint for First Class Citizenship

By Pauli Murray

Sickened by the humiliation and insult which met them on every hand in the nation's capital, Howard university students applied intelligent direct action which made a beginning in cracking the iron color bar

HOWARD UNIVERSITY traditionally has been called the "Capstone of Negro Education." When 2,000 young Americans, fresh from 45 states and students from 24 foreign countries arrived there two years ago, their futures uncertain, their draft numbers coming up every day, and their campus surrounded by the dankest kind of degredation they were tempted to call their alma mater the "keptstone" of education. More than half of these students had come from northern or border states or western and middle-western communities. Many of them had never tasted the bitter fruits of jim crow. They were of a generation who tended to think for themselves as Americans without a hyphen.

Thrown rudely into the nation's capital where jim crow rides the American Eagle, if indeed he does not put the poor symbol to flight, these students were psychologically and emotionally unprepared for the insults and indignities visited upon them when they left the campus and went downtown to see the first-run shows, or stopped in a cafe to get a hotdog and a "coke". The will to be free is strong in the young, and their sensitive souls recoiled with a violence that reverberated throughout the war time campus.

The revolt against jim crow started with a mutter and a rumble. It was loudest in the Law School where men students, unprotected by any kind of deferment, were being yanked out of their classes and into a G.I. uniform. "I don't want to fight in a jim crow army." "I'd rather die first!" "I'll go to jail first." were some of the remarks daily. During the first tense days of war time conscription, classes were almost entirely disrupted by the feeling of futility and frustration that settled over these young men.

And then the spirit of revolt took shape. It started in the fall of 1942 with the refusal of Lewis Jones, Morehouse graduate, to be inducted into a jim crow army and the editorial comment of John P. Lewis of *PM* on Lewis' stand. Stung into action, a letter signed by 40 Howard University students, supporting the spirit which led Lewis to take such action, was sent to editor Lewis. He did not print the letter although he wrote the students a courteous reply.

Women Students Arrested

In January, 1943 three women students were arrested in downtown Washington for the simple act of refusing to pay an overcharge for three hot chocolates in a United Cigar store on Pennsylvania avenue. The young women sat down at the counter and ordered hot chocolates. The waitress refused to serve them at first and they asked for the manager. They were told the manager was out, and they replied they would wait, keeping their seats at the counter. After hurried legal consultation the "management" ordered the waitress to serve them, but upon looking at their checks they were charged twenty-five cents each instead of the standard dime charged for a packaged hot drink. The young women laid thirty-five cents on the counter and started for the door where they were met by a half dozen policemen, hauled off to a street corner, held until the arrival of a Black Maria, and landed in prison in a cell with prostitutes and other criminal suspects. It was not until they were searched and scared almost out of their wits that the dean of women at Howard University was notified and they were dismissed in her care without any charge lodged against them.

The flood of resentment against the whole system of segregation broke loose. Conservative administration members frowned upon this "incident" and advised the three young women they should not stage individual demonstrations against jim crow. It was suggested they should work through an organization concerned with such matters.

These young women of Howard were determined. Others joined them. They took the matter to the student chapter of the NAACP. In the meantime from the Law School issued a new trend of thought. The men had spent hours in their "bull sessions" discussing attack and counter-attack upon jim crow. One second-year student, a North Carolinian and former leader in NAACP, William Raines, had agitated for months for what he called "the stool-sitting technique." "If the white people want to deny us service, let them pay for it," Raines said. "Let's go downtown some lunch hour when they're crowded. They're open to the public. We'll take a seat on a lunch stool, and if they don't serve us, we'll just sit there and read our books. They lose trade while that seat is out of circulation. If enough people occupy seats, they'll lose so much trade, they'll start thinking."

While Raines was arguing another student, Ruth Powell, from Boston, Mass., later chairman of the dynamic Civil Rights Committee, was doing just this. She would sit for hours and stare at the waitress who had refused her service. She reported it disconcerted the management and sometimes she might even be served.

Questionnaire Circulated

When this point of view percolated the campus, the students went into action. Raines went into the army but his idea went on. A temporary Student Committee on Campus Opinion was formed. A questionnaire was distributed throughout the campus on February 3, 1943 testing student and faculty reactions to an active campaign against segregation in Washington, D. C.

292 students answered the questionnaire. 284 or 97.3% of those said they did not believe Negroes should suspend the struggle for equal rights until the end of the war. 256, or 97% of those answering this question said they believed Negro students should actively participate in the struggle for equality during war time. 218 said they would actively join a campaign to break down segregation in Washington; 38 indicated they would not join but would support others who did. Only 6 disapproved of the idea.

A Civil Rights Committee was formed in March under the sponsorship of the Howard Chapter, NAACP. The students unearthed an "Equal Rights Bill for the District of Columbia, No. 1995, introduced by Congressman Rowan of Illinois and a companion bill introduced in the Senate by the late Senator Barbour from New Jersey.

The Civil Rights Committee undertook a campaign to bring equal accommodations to the District of Columbia. They set up five sub-committees, publicity and speakers' bureau, program and legislative, committee on correspondence, finance, and direct action. They lobbyed in groups with the representatives and senators from their states. They made ingenious little collection cans out of hot chocolate cups and collected pennies from their classmates to pay for paper and postage. They held pep rallies around campus and broadcast their campaign from the tower of Founders Library. They sponsored a Town Hall Meeting at Douglass Hall and brought in community speakers to lead a discussion on "Civil Rights" and the techniques by which they were to be attained.

Their most interesting project, and the one to draw the most fire, was the Direct Action sub-committee. There the "stool sitting" idea

combined with the "sit-it-out-in-your-most-dignified-bib-and-tucker" idea to make a fundamental thrust at the heart of jim crow.

A committee of students surveyed the accommodations of the immediate Negro community on northwest U Street. They reported four stores which still excluded Negroes and catered to "White Trade Only." One of these cafes, the Little Palace Cafeteria, run by a Greek-American, was located at 14th and U Streets, NW, in the heart of the Negro section, and the stories told by Negroes of their embarrassment and mortification in this cafeteria were legion.

Study Picketing Laws

The direct action sub-committee spent a week studying the disorderly conduct and picketing laws of D. C. They spent hours threshing out the pros and cons of public conduct, anticipating and preparing for the reactions of the white public, the Negro public, white customers and the management. They pledged themselves to exemplary behavior, no matter was the provocation. And one rainy Saturday afternoon in April, they started out. In groups of four, with one student acting as an "observer" on the outside, they approached the cafe. Three went inside and requested service. Upon refusal they took their seats and pulled out magazines, books of poetry, or pencils and pads. They sat quietly. Neither the manager's panicky efforts to dismiss them nor the presence of a half dozen policemen outside could dislodge them. Five minutes later another group of three would enter. This pilgrimage continued until the Little Cafeteria was more than half-filled with staring students on the inside, and a staring public grouped in the street. In forty-five minutes the management had closed the cafeteria. The students took up their vigil outside the restaurant with attractive and provocative picket signs, "There's No Segregation Law in D. C.—"What's Your Story Little Palace?" "We die together—Why Can't We Eat Together?" and so on. The picketing continuped on Monday morning when the restaurant reopened its doors. The students had arranged a picketing schedule and gave their free hours to the picket line. In two days the management capitulated and changed its policy.

In the spring of 1944, the Civil Rights Committee decided to carry the fight downtown into the heart of Washington. They selected a Thompson's cafeteria at 14th and Pennsylvania in the shadow of the White House. They took off a Saturday afternoon, dressed in their best, and strolled into Thompsons in two's and three's at intervals of ten minutes. They threw up a small picket line outside. Three white sympathizers polled the customers inside and found that only 3 out of 10 expressed objection to their being served. They scrupulously observed the picketing laws, and neither the jeers of undisciplined white members of the Armed Forces, nor cheers of WACs WAVEs and

Student Pickets

The spirit of protest is not new at Howard. Pickets are shown here in a demonstration nine years ago.

other sympathetic members of the public brought any outward response. When 55 of them, including 6 Negro members of the Armed Forces, had taken seats at the tables, and the Thompson's trade had dropped 50 percent in four hours, the management, after frantic calls to its main office in Chicago, was ordered to serve them.

Administration Enters Picture

Before the Civil Rights Committee was able to negotiate with the local management of Thompsons with reference to a changed policy, the Howard University Administration, through the office of Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, requested them to suspend their activities until there was a clarification of Administration policy. A hurried meeting of the Deans and Administrators was called and a directive issued requesting the students to cease all activities "designed to accomplish social reform affecting institutions other than Howard University itself."

The students were quick to take up this challenge. They then directed their efforts at "social reform" toward the Administration itself. They had already requested a discussion with representatives of the faculty and administration. They indicated their unwillingness to give up their direct action program, and appealed the ruling of the Administration to the Board of Directors which meets in October, 1944.

Out of the struggle, however, issued a new level of student responsibility and interest in campus affairs. The students did not win their total battle against Thompson's, but they achieved a moral victory for student-administration-faculty relationships. They learned interesting things about their University—for example, that 60 percent of its income is a grant from the Federal Government, that 22 percent comes from student fees and that 13 percent comes from campus enterprises, and that only 9 percent comes from gifts other than governmental aid. They learned that the enemies of Howard University in Congress seek to destroy it every time the voting of appropriations arrives. They also learned that Howard University is a beacon light to the Negro community and a significant contribution to the total community, and that everything done there is watched with intense interest. A Student-Faculty-Administration has been set up to make recommendations on student affairs.

The question remains to be settled during the coming months whether Howard students shall participate in social action directed against the second-class citizenship to which they have been victimized. There are those who believe the energy and the dynamics of social change must originate in democratic institutions which form test-tubes of democracy and that must be a realistic relation of one's activities in th ecommunity to one's studies in the classroom. There are others who believe that education is a static affair and must not be related to the community at large. Between these two points of view Howard University must make a choice.

But whatever the final outcome, Howard may be proud of those students who have led the way toward a new, and perhaps successful techniques to achieve first class citizenship in one area of life in these United States.

AN ODE TO GALLANT MEN

(Dedicated to those who serve)

To gallant men so long unsung,
From whose damp brow progress was wrung,
A poet's lay retrieves the lore
Unsung by history's troubadour.
Of pioneer of darker hue
Who joined the front ranks to subdue
The undiscovered strength of man;
To harness nature's wondrous Plan.

For notched upon mile posts of time
From history's dawn to present clime
Dark fingers built the structural form
Of civilization's basic norm.
Dark faces served not for the song
Of praise which centuries have long
Denied. But for the worth of serving. . . .
The rank they gained, ever thrice deserving.
Behind the door of rated stride
The Negro marches alongside. . . .
All hail to those of darker hue
Eyes of the world are watching you!

BEATRICE WRIGHT.

Negroes in New Orleans, La., purchased nearly $1,000,000 worth of war bonds in the Fifth War Loan drive, according to the final report of Mrs. N. R. Borikins, chairman of the Negro division.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

DuBois at NAACP: Following two weeks spent as guest of Haiti's Ministry of Education, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois assumed directorship of the NAACP's Bureau of Special Research, Sept. 22.

The work of the Bureau of Special Research will deal primarily with the question of colonies, their relation to democracy and peace, and more especially, with colonies of colored peoples and Africa. Collections of documents, statements and plans with proposals for remedial action after the war, will be made.

While in Haiti, Dr. DuBois delivered three lectures, one to the summer school of teachers and two to the public. Visits to various parts of the Republic were made including Cap Haitien and the Citadel.

Untrue, Says "Ike": General Dwight Eisenhower branded "unfounded and incorrect" the statement of a merchant seaman who reported that white paratroopers had either killed or wounded more than a score of Negro soldiers in Bristol, England, about August 1.

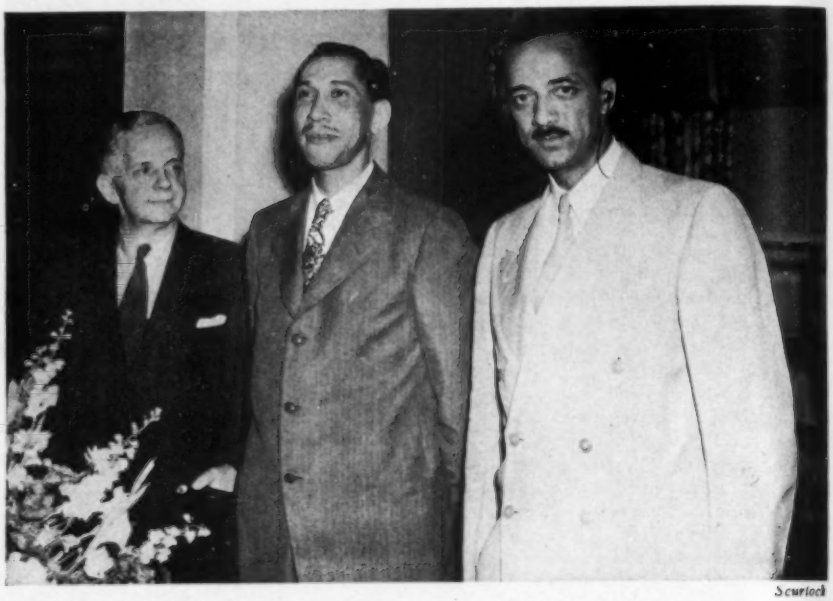
Replying to Walter White's urgent inquiry regarding the rumor, General Eisenhower said in his cable "Pursuant to your message regarding incident involving killing of eight and wounding twenty colored soldiers around August first in England I had thorough investigation conducted which reveals the report is unfounded and incorrect."

Stay in Murder Case: The NAACP through Attorney Forrest B. Jackson has secured a stay of execution in the case of the State of Mississippi vs. Willie Carter sentenced for the murder of a policeman in Union, Miss.

The stay was granted on the basis of new and material evidence found in the case. The new evidence being that Carter was an epileptic and former inmate of the State Hospital for the Insane and not in his right mind when the crime was committed. The order granting the stay of execution was signed by Judge V. A. Griffith, Judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Mississippi.

Spingarn Medal Nominations: Nominations for the 1944 Spingarn Medal, "to be awarded for the highest and noblest achievement by an American Negro during the preceding year or years,' are now open, the NAACP announced. Anyone may submit the name of a person considered to be worthy of recognition and send it to the national office, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York 3, N. Y.

The Spingarn gold medal which was instituted by the late J. E. Spingarn was awarded for the first time in 1914, and upon the death of the donor in 1939, a fund was set up in his will for its continuance. Decision on the 1944 nominees will be made by a committee of nine persons. In 1941 the award went to A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; in 1942, to Judge William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard Law School, for his work as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War prior to his resignation in January, 1943; and in 1943, to Dr. Charles R. Drew for his outstanding work in blood plasma and the setting up of the blood bank in Presbyterian Hospital, New York, which served as one of the models for the system now used by the American Red Cross.



Scurlock

When the Rev. Arthur Gray retired as president of the District of Columbia branch last summer, members and friends gave him a testimonial dinner. He is shown (center) with Walter White, left, and Judge William H. Hastie, new branch president. Rev. Gray is now minister of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Chicago, Ill.

From the Pacific: Praise for the work of the Association was expressed in a letter received by Walter White from Pittsburgh Courier War Correspondent, Billy Rowe, "somewhere in the Pacific."

Rowe said, "Since I've been out here I realize how important the organization is and what its place will be in the world of Peace that will come. Like it, I have just begun to fight, for I have been allowed to meet people—to understand them—to hear their cries—become aware of their needs. I want to become a definite part of your Army and help in some way. What we are fighting for isn't racial or religious, it's American."

Contributions amounting to $1,895 were sent to the NAACP in August from soldiers and officers in the Pacific as a result of requests made on behalf of the Association by Mr. Rowe, whose assignment included this sector.

Los Angeles P. O. Jim Crow: Charges of racial discrimination in upgrading and preferred assignments, by the Los Angeles Post Office, have been brought to the attention of Postmaster General Frank C. Walker by the legal department of the national office NAACP.

Complaints registered against the practices of the local P. O. were first filed by the National Alliance of Postal Employees, with the FEPC Committee in November, 1943, and supplements added in December, 1943, and January, 1944. As pointed out in the NAACP letter, however, all were ignored.

Veterans' Secretary: The addition of a Secretary of Veterans' Affairs to its staff to safeguard the rights of GI's and members of their families was voted by the NAACP Board of Directors at the October meeting. In this way it is hoped that the Association will be able to render inestimable service to all members of the armed services, coming

Some More NAACP Branch Presidents

Joseph James
San Francisco, Cal.

John W. Lancaster, Jr.
Bridgeport, Conn.

Mrs. D. W. Stanley
Salt Lake City, Utah

Arthur McCants
Las Vegas, Nevada

Mrs. Lulu R. Jones
Orange County, Va.

Nathan J. Holly
Long Beach, Cal.

to its bureau for the solution of their problems.

NAACP MOURNS WILLKIE: Visibly grieved over the sudden death of Wendell Willkie, the man who stood stalwart and oft times alone in his fight for equality of rights for the common man, Walter White said in a statement to the daily press, "Wendell Willkie's death is the greatest blow to human decency which any man's could have possibly caused. I was proud to have numbered him as one of my most intimate friends. In talking with him a few days before he entered the hospital, he reiterated the cardinal principles of his life that the rights of minorities and a decent international understanding were the most important problems facing America and the world today. Negroes have lost one of the truest friends they have ever had."

Among articles on behalf of minorities, Mr. Willkie had just called attention in an article in Collier's magazine (Oct. 7) to the failure of both party platforms to meet the Negro problem realistically. Further attestation of his devotion to their cause is evidenced in his recent gift of $5,000 to the NAACP for the purpose of printing and distributing educational pamphlets. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was represented at Mr. Willkie's funeral by Mr. and Mrs. Walter White and daughter Jane, and Dr. Channing H. Tobias.

BARS VOTE CASE DISMISSAL: On September 28, Judge Clarence Mullins, of the U. S. District Court at Birmingham, Ala., overruled the motion to dismiss filed by the defendant registrars in the Birmingham registration case.

In the complaint filed almost two years ago, W. L. Patterson alleges registration was denied him solely on the basis of race or color, and that despite the fact he answered all questions correctly concerning his qualification and filled in the required application blank, the Board refused to register him. A declaratory judgment for $5,000 was asked for the plaintiff by Special NAACP Defense Counsel, Thurgood Marshall and Arthur Shores.

Fifty grounds for dismissal of the motion were listed by the Attorney General of Alabama, represented by Assistant Attorney General W. W. Callahan and three assistants. Since almost all were purely technical, several were abandoned by the State of Alabama.

DUBOIS RIPS DUMBARTON PACT ON COLONIES: In a statement to the conference of Americans United for World Organization, held at the Department of State, October 16, in which several hundred were in attendance, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, representing the NAACP, raised the whole issue of colonies and imperialism bringing out the inadequacy of proposals made on each.

Basing his summary remarks on study of the published proposals of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, in regard to colonials, Dr. DuBois said, "It virtually says to six hundred million human beings, if not to a majority of mankind, that the only way to human equality is the philanthropy of masters who have historic and strong interest in preserving their present power and income." In outlining precisely, details for the basis of this conclusion, Dr. DuBois elaborated as follows:

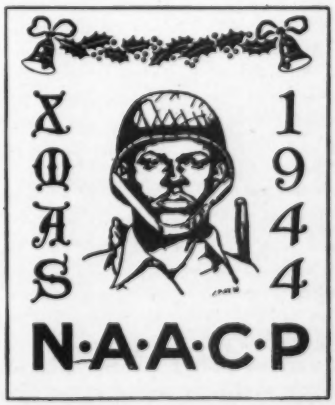
"As I have gone through the published proposals at Dumbarton Oaks, I am depressed to realize with what consistency the matter of colonies has been passed over. In chapter one, paragraph three, the emphasis is on the fact that this is a union of nations, not of races, groups, or organizations of men, not recognized as nations; in chapter two, paragraph one, peace-loving 'States' alone may join the Union; in chapter six, apparently an aggrieved party must be a state in order to complain or appear before the Council; similarly in chapter seven, no colonies as such can appeal for hearing before the International Court of Justice. Elaborate effort is made to protect states from aggression, but I find no provisions in chapter seven even to consider aggression of a nation on its own colonial peoples while apparently international military force can be called in to suppress revolt. Indeed in paragraph seven of that chapter it seems definitely to say that colonial disputes lie entirely beyond the jurisdiction of this proposed government of men. The Economic and Social Council set up in this chapter offers some ray of hope: It can recommend and consider complaints and situations; but there is no direct power to investigate conditions. The Council is appointed by eighteen states with no colonial participation indicated."

YOUTH CONFERENCE: Congressman Adam C. Powell, jr., will deliver the keynote ad-

Buy...

NAACP

Christmas Seals



Use these soldier seals on your letters, greeting cards, packages.

BOOK OF 100—$1.00

See your local branch or NAACP

69 Fifth Avenue, New York 3, N. Y.

dress at the opening of the sixth annual NAACP Youth Conference at Virginia Union University, the night of November 17. Delegates representing NAACP youth councils and college chapters will be welcomed by President J. M. Ellison. The meeting will continue through November 18 and adjourn at noon November 19. Among the discussion leaders will be Gloster Current, executive secretary of the Detroit, Mich., branch on "Pressure Techniques for a Mass Organization"; Ella J. Baker, Director of Branches, on "Recruiting for the NAACP"; and Rabbi Edward Klein of the Free Synagogue, New York City, and Toru Matsumato of the Federal Council of Churches, New York City, on "Negro Youth Relationships to National and International Minority Problems." Mrs. Ruby H. Hurley is national youth director of the NAACP.

NEW IBERIA PROSECUTION: The civil rights section of the Department of Justice has promised to investigate the terrorizing of colored people in New Iberia, Louisiana, last spring and the beating and driving out of town of J. Leo Hardy, president of New Iberia NAACP, and three other prominent citizens. Mr. Hardy was interviewed personally by Victor W. Rotnem on a recent visit to the Department, accompanied by Leslie Perry of the Washington bureau.

SAILOR "MUTINY" TRIAL: The NAACP will file a brief before Admiral Carlton H. Wright of the 12th Naval District and before the Naval Board of Review in Washington, D. C., appealing the conviction of 50 Negro sailors in a court-martial in California. The men were accused of mutiny because they allegedly refused to load ammunition, but when the verdict of guilty was brought in October 24 after 45 minutes deliberation, it was not stated whether or not they had been found guilty on the mutiny charge as such.

Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel, who spent 12 days as an observer at the trial in California, issued a statement that in his belief the men were being tried on account of their color and not because of anything they had done or failed to do. Forty-four of the defendants had a perfect conduct rating of 4.0 and more than half of them were less than 21 years of age.

The case grew out of the fatal blast at Port Chicago in August, in which more than 250 Negro seamen handling ammunition were blown to bits. It is contended that the Navy has adopted a policy of confining the dangerous work of loading ammunition almost exclusively to Negro sailors, many of whom have been graduated from specialized courses and are eligible by training for more skilled tasks aboard ship.

Send Your Copy of
THE CRISIS
To a Friend

Youngest Chicago Member

Little Miss Danelle L. Ross, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David P. Ross, Jr., of Chicago, who enrolled in the NAACP during the recent drive.

Branch News

CALIFORNIA: A conference of the Pacific Coast branches will be held in San Francisco November 24-25. The 33 branches in Washington, Oregon, Nevada and California will be represented by delegates who will consider the problems raised by the tremendous migration of colored and white southerners into the region.

Among the topics will be the serious developments in the schools along the Coast, with tendency toward the development of a segregated pattern; present employment opportunities and post-war prospects; opportunities in agriculture; and public and private housing. Delegates are expected to outline conditions in their own communities and the conference will devise a program of activity on which all West Coast branches can unite.

The conference will be a preliminary to the setting up of a West Coast regional conference and the opening of a West Coast regional office in charge of a director. This will be the first regional office set up by the NAACP and the rest of the country will be watching the West Coast project with a view to using it as a pattern for other regional offices.

The conference will open Friday morning, November 24 with registration and an outline of the purposes of the meeting. There will be discussion periods throughout the day and through Saturday. A mass meeting will be held Friday night. It is expected that the business will be completed, not by drawing up resolutions, but by framing a program for attacking the situations peculiar to the Pacific Coast. Noah W. Griffin and Roy Wilkins of the New York office will attend the meeting.

IOWA: Mrs. William Neal who brought in 140 members and Mrs. Azalia Mitchell who brought in 120 members in the recent campaign of the Des Moines branch received awards from Ike Smalls, leading citizen of Des Moines and former president of the branch.

KANSAS: Samuel Ridley gave a report of the NAACP wartime conference in Chicago at the September meeting of the Newton branch. Principal speaker was Rev. Logan Martin. Remarks were made by Rev. M. C. Hooe and Rev. F. E. Nunley.

NEW JERSEY: The Camden branch has made plans for the full membership drive to start the first week in November Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin is to direct the campaign again this year.

A mass meeting is to be held November 12 with Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary and editor of *The Crisis*, as guest speaker. All captains and workers in the membership drive are asked to report at this meeting.

Dr. J. M. Vaughan is chairman of the membership committee, Dr. U. S. Wiggins, branch president, Shirley Baskerville, treasurer, and Mrs. Juanita E. Dicks, secretary and chairman of publicity.

NEW MEXICO: The Alamogordo, N. M. branch installed its officers at a meeting October 15. The principal speaker was Rev. G. W. Brown. Other speakers were Rev. Pinkney, Rev. Johnson, Rev. Blanks, Rev. Williams, and Rev. Wright.

NEW YORK: The first of a series of leadership training conferences, which will be held in various areas, is scheduled for New York City November 11. The 100 delegates from New York State and New England branches have indicated they will be present to consider better methods of organizing branches for effective work on local, regional, and national problems. Leader of the conference will be Miss Ella J. Baker, director of branches, who will be assisted by other staff members.

NORTH CAROLINA: The Lee County branch at Jonesboro was one year old in September. It started with 14 interested persons, and now has a membership of 100. The goal for next year is 200 members.

OHIO: Miss L. Pearl Mitchell has begun her duties as executive secretary of the Cleveland branch. Miss Mitchell is a veteran worker in the NAACP and has been a member of the national board of directors

(Continued on page 365)

Book Review

"PROBLEM" FICTION

Flour Is Dusty. **By Curtis Lucas. Philadelphia: Dorrance and Company, 1943. 166pp. $1.50.**

The People from Heaven. **By John Sanford. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1943. 232pp. $2.50.**

Two books recently come to attention provide an interesting contrast of approaches to minority group problems. Lucas's *Flour Is Dusty*, a novelette, though suggesting the inter-group efforts to deal with such problems, is confined largely to the every-day struggles of aspiring Negroes; while Sanford's *The People from Heaven*, with a Negro woman as tragic symbol of the American dilemma, is a dramatic expose of mistreatment of several minority groups from the landing of the first white men to the present day.

Flour Is Dusty, written in simple, autobiographical style, is the story of Jim Harrell, an aspiring youth whose flight from Georgia, after leaving his father for dead in the fields of their farm, eventually finds him in Atlantic City at the hotel of a Mrs. Banning whose niece he loves and who herself becomes for him almost a mother. The story is highlighted by experiences such as many Negro boys have—mistreatment at the hands of their fathers who feel that an education is pointless, support by their mothers against terrific odds, encouragement from some teacher, with all the while fear and hope contending for mastery of their very souls. The book dramatically depicts the situations which lead to juvenile delinquency, the salutary and inimical forces working for prevention of crime or rehabilitation of incipient juvenile criminals, the power of organized effort as represented by the NAACP, the YMCAs, and the effectiveness of citizens' groups in combating segregation, at least in communities like Atlantic City where statutes give Negroes at least a semblance of protection.

Perhaps the newest aspect of Negro life presented in the story is that of involvement in criminal courts because of peddling and using dope. Harrell becomes involved through his one-time friend and closest contender for honors at Potter Memorial Institute, who having become convinced by Marvin Guy, leader of the dope gang, that he can make easy money, inadvertently precipitates the murder of Mrs. Banning with which Harrell is accused. It is Harrell's determination to solve the crime that leads to his vindication, punishment of the murderer, mutual declaration of love of Harrell and Crystal Banning, and a renewed opportunity for the protagonist's opening an up-to-date emporium owned by Negroes. It is the childhood oath behind this resolution which gives the story its title: If I don't do it "Flour ain't dusty and lard ain't greasy."

Pulsating in every page, *The People from Heaven* gives a panoramic view of the relations of the white man to all other peoples with whom he has come in contact on this continent since the landing of Columbus. Essentially it is the story of what goes on in Warrensburg, a small community that might be anywhere in this country at one or another period of its history. Here are gathered descendants of various European groups, Indians, and a single Negro woman who comes upon the scene a migrant seeking a better place to live. Here, too, are the various religious, non-religious, and irreligious types whom one might meet in the United States.

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Max L. Hudicourt, author of the article on Haiti, is at the extreme left in this photograph.

Jim Crow in Haiti

(*Continued from page* 354)

the occupants of the White House, President and Mrs. Roosevelt, are showing so much active sympathy for the Negro cause. It seems that the Negro president of Haiti wishes to make common cause with the whites of the south, and on his last trip to the United States he did not even deign to visit his former friends in Harlem. I visited one of the most respectable Negro families in the United States, and one which has in the past had very intimate personal relations with M. Lescot to find that they had had to submit to this new jim-crow foolishness of the Haitian president. Such painful knowledge makes me know that the charges in the *Defender* articles must have foundation. Truly a sad state of affairs!

New Racism

When you consider the domestic economic and social problems of my country, it is a danger bordering on tragedy to establish a racial and racist line in Haiti where none existed some thirty years ago.

After the war of independence the Haitian Negro became master of his house and lands as the result of a constitutional provision preventing foreigners from owning Haitian real estate. And he was also master of his politics as well as his business. Nevertheless, the imperialism of international finance developing throughout the world did not fail to seize upon Haiti, which, so easy to conquer because of its poverty and abundant cheap labor, was difficult of assimilation because of its national pride and the rigor of its laws. The American occupation, however, brought in its train a host of southern louts and "nigger haters." Racism at once acquired dignity and officers and privates of the Marine corps were even discharged upon the expression of the mere wish to marry Haitian girls. Clubs and schools were founded for white families only to which whites of other nationalities were admitted, whites who before the American occupation had never set themselves up as a group apart.

White Influence Baneful

In Haiti the white man has gradually extended his economic influence to the detriment of the native element, and our political instability has aided this white exploitation by the sale of arms and usurious loans for the fostering of revolutions. Today finance, industry, and commerce are in the hands of foreigners and this caste is a dominant factor in the ruling class of the country. From positions of private influence this group has now passed into the realms of politics and today at official receptions it is this white segment which dominates.

There is nothing of a racist character in these observations, for Haiti would be happier if white support were cultural or scientific; yet the power of investment capital grows stronger, developing in Haiti a new spirit and a new law which has the effect of reinforcing the semi-colonial social structure of Haiti with its abyss, growing wider day by day, between the semi-civilized masses and a greedy elite manipulated more and more by this cosmopolitan caste dominated by the American element.

It would be better if, as the eminent Cordell Hull says, the example of devotion and sacrifice could help the two countries steer themselves toward the realization of a better world; that American "ambassadors" in Haiti no longer consist of industrialists, and exploiting business men but, as has been recently said with *éclat* and understanding by one of the fine flowers of our race, Mr. Locke, of artists, philosophers, liberals, defenders of liberties, internationalists and universal humanists.

Branch News

(*Continued from page* 362)

for many years. She recently gave up her work with the juvenile court.

Walter White was the main speaker for the state conference meeting in Columbus October 29.

OKLAHOMA: The annual meeting of the state conference was held October 19-20 in Enid with Miss Ella J. Baker of the New York office in attendance.

The Seminole branch extended its membership campaign to October 15 in the expectation of exceeding the goal of 150 members. The September meeting was addressed by L. W. Frances, branch president, who pleaded for tolerance and understanding.

PENNSYLVANIA: The Media branch reports 500 new members as result of its campaign. President C. I. Moat and Secretary Frederick S. Randolph attended the state conference meeting in Erie.

In the recent campaign the Harrisburg branch increased its membership from 200 to more than 800. Harrisburg, having had a somewhat indifferent attitude toward the organization for many years, was aroused by a program of advertisement and personal interviews directed by Charles P. McClane, manager, Herman Kaplow, assistant manager, and the Reverend F. D. Gholston, president of the branch.

Team leaders were: Rev. Gholston, Mrs. Anna Boswell, Richard Carroll, Mrs. Marie Curtis, Miss Edith Dennis, Mrs. Carolyn Dismond, Charles Donahue, Andrew Grier, H. F. Kyle, Mrs. Ruth Rowland Reed, Mrs. Elean Kaplow, Osher Sapolsky, John W. Taylor and Mrs. Sarah Wedlock. These captains with other key workers representing various churches and other organizations brought in a total amount of $1,013.50 from 803 members during the drive which lasted about three weeks.

The drive culminated in a mammoth membership concert at the Educational Forum. Tickets sold for $1 and 20 cents tax and included one year's minimum membership in the NAACP. Persons taking $2.50 and $5.00 memberships were given free tickets. Justice Francis Rivers of New York City and the Reverend Marshall Shepard of Philadelphia were guest speakers and a program of music was rendered at the concert.

The enthusiasm engendered by the campaign is still high and memberships are coming in at a rate which indicates an enrollment of 1,000 by the end of the year. Of the members now on roll, approximately one-third are white and two-thirds colored including people from all walks of life in both races. A year of progressive activity has been planned.

During October the Philadelphia branch

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held a forum on the subject "The Stake of Negro Workers in the November Election." There were speakers from the Republican, Democratic and Socialist parties; also a representative of the Philadelphia Citizens Political Action Committee. Dr. Thomas Yatabe, formerly of Fresno, California, spoke briefly on "Japanese-Americans" and Miss Ruby Yoshino, also of Fresno, rendered a solo. G. James Fleming, regional director of the FEPC, presided. "Reconversion and Post-War Employment" will be the topic of the forum November 26.

At the membership meeting in October the discussion topic was "The Red Cross Blood Donor Service."

Channie Wilson, member of the West Philadelphia Youth Council was crowned "Miss NAACP" at the annual fall dance of the council. She sold 1,857 votes. Sylvia Watson was runner-up with 1,650 votes. The branch has filed a complaint with the price panel of Ration Board No. 18 alleging flagrant violations of ceiling prices in the 40th Street and Lancaster Avenue section. Twenty-one soldiers stationed at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana have joined the Philadelphia branch at the solicitation of Col. Henry C. Sparks, former activity secretary of the Christian Street branch YMCA who is stationed at Claiborne.

Although holding to its non-partisan line, the Pennsylvania State Conference of branches challenged the several branches throughout the state to ring the doorbells of candidates for office "and have them go on the record as to how they will vote, both in Congress and the Pennsylvania legislature on a number of issues of vital concern to Negro citizens."

This was the spirit of the tenth annual conference held in Erie September 30-October 1 at the Booker T. Washington Center and presided over by Mrs. Sophia B. Nelson, president for the past two years and one of the founders of the State Conference.

In addition to a strong set of resolutions, the conference also heard authoritative discussions on segregation in housing by Richard F. Jones, treasurer of the Pittsburgh Housing Authority; on "Educational problems facing the Negro soldier in the post-war world," by Sherman A. Harmon, boys' work secretary, the Pittsburgh YMCA and on labor problems by Ben Careathers, CIO organizer.

Joseph W. Givens, Pittsburgh, spoke at meeting on the legal basis of equal rights, while Mrs. Heber Wharton and A. G. Cook, president of the Erie branch, welcomed the delegates of 15 branches on behalf of the city and the host branch. The open public meeting was addressed by John H. Graney of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO, and by G. James Fleming, Philadelphia FEPC regional director.

Among other speakers during the several sessions were: Mrs. Anna W. Smith, Bryn Mawr; Wesley First, the only white delegate to the conference from the Erie branch; Dell Darling, member of the board of commissioners, State Legislator D. Dalrymple, Mrs. Carolyn Davenport Moore, executive secretary, Philadelphia branch, NAACP; the Rev. J. D. Myers, pastor, Church of God in Christ.

The officers elected for 1944-45 are as follows: Dr. George A. Walker, Hollidaysburg, president; Dr. James A. Gillespie, New Castle, first vice-president; Joshua Thompson, Ambler, second vice-president; Charles R. Brown, Hollidaysburg, recording secretary; Mrs. Edna Carr, Clairton, corresponding secretary; John C. Jones, Pittsburgh, treasurer; Leroy Campbell, Lancaster, eastern division youth director; Joseph Jones, Clairton, western youth director; Carolyn Davenport Moore, Philadelphia, state organizer, eastern division; Edward Lewis, Farrell, state organizer, western division; Joseph Givens, chairman, grievance and redress committee.

Members of the executive committee are: Milo A. Manly, Philadelphia; Mrs. Sophia B. Nelson, Pittsburgh; Mrs. A. W. Smith, Bryn Mawr; the Rev. D. A. Terry, Altoona; Beryl Hall, Newcastle; the Rev. J. L. Pittinger, Ardmore; A G. Cook, Erie.

TEXAS: Miss Ella J. Baker of the New York office spoke at a mass meeting of the Houston branch October 22. The branch recently received 155 memberships from soldiers in the South Pacific solicited by Sgt. George W. Burton, 3rd. The Youth Council of the Houston branch held a "rejuvenation" meeting in September at the branch office, 624 South Pine Street. The council decided as its first project to sponsor a go-to-school drive.

VIRGINIA: The Virginia state conference of branches will meet in Richmond November 4-5.

WEST VIRGINIA: The Monongalia (Morgantown) branch announces that it has exceeded its quota of 200 new members in the recent drive. The branch is expecting a visit from Miss Ella J. Baker, director of branches, during November.

Praise for Negro Aviation Outfit in Conquest of Saipan

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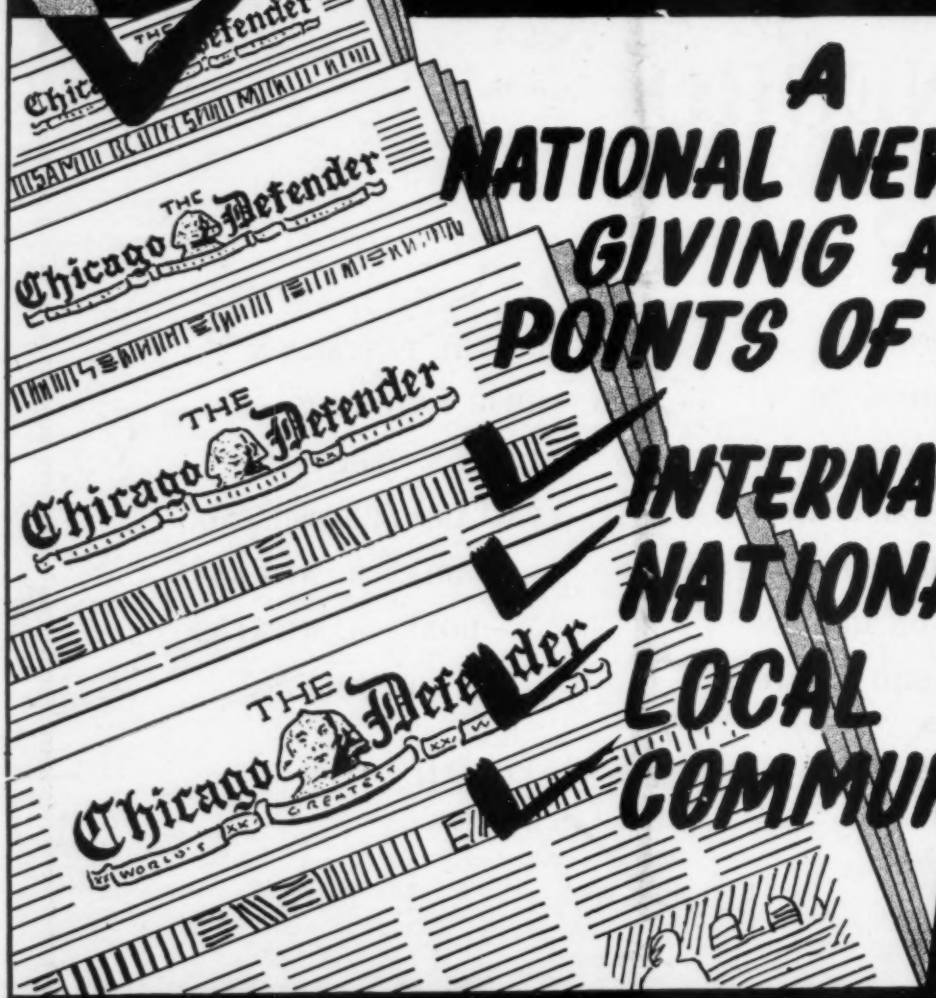

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